

U.N. head calls for arms race halt

UNITED NATIONS (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar called on Tuesday for a halt to the arms race and fresh global efforts to bring about "a general peace." Speaking at a ceremony marking the International Day of Peace and the opening of the 40th session of the U.N. General Assembly, he said he hoped the coming year would see "progress toward the limitation of nuclear weapons." These pose "the greatest threat to our survival," he told delegates gathered in brilliant late summer sunshine beside a Japanese peace bell, tolled on ceremonial U.N. occasions. Mr. Perez de Cuellar rang the bell three times. The three-month General Assembly session was expected to be dominated by southern Africa and intense pressure by the U.N. majority to end the East-West arms race.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، والرأي

Volume 10 Number 2972

AMMAN, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 1985, MUHARRAM 3, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King, Sharif Zaid visit army units

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid bin Shaker on Tuesday paid an inspection tour to a number of military training positions and sites. The inspection tour included visits to units from the 12th Royal Mechanized Division, support units, new site of the Royal Defence College and the Royal Command and Staff Academy. King Hussein and Gen. Sharif Zaid were briefed on stages of the military training.

King sends good wishes to Chile

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday sent a cable of congratulations to Chilean President Augusto Pinochet on the occasion of Chile's national day. King Hussein wished Mr. Pinochet and the people of Chile further prosperity and progress.

Decree approves envoy to Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued on Tuesday appointing Mr. Talaat Al Hassan as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Tunis. The decree also appointed him permanent representative of Jordan to the Tunis-based Arab League.

Lebanese militia claims suicide blast

BEIRUT (R) — A Lebanese militia blew himself up Tuesday in a suicide car bomb attack on Israeli troops and allied militiamen in South Lebanon, state-owned Lebanese Television reported. It said Mohammad Al Masri of the Nasserite "Arab Socialist Union" drove a car laden with 300 kg of TNT and 10 mortar bombs into a post held by the pro-Israeli "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia at Tallat Alman, 10 kilometres from the Israeli border. The attack could not be independently confirmed and the television made no mention of casualties.

Israel confirms landing of plane from Iran

TEL AVIV (R) — A DC-8 cargo plane on a flight from Iran, whose whereabouts had been a mystery since Sunday, landed in Israel for electrical repairs, a senior official at Tel Aviv airport said Tuesday. Mordechai Debi, manager of Ben Gurion airport, told reporters the aircraft landed here last Sunday after suffering a fault in communications equipment. At the time, Israeli military and civil officials flatly denied Turkish reports that the plane was in Tel Aviv. Debi said he was unable to shed more light on the flight.

Khaddam in Iran

TEHRAN (R) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam arrived in Tehran on Tuesday for a one-day visit, the national news agency IRNA reported. Mr. Khaddam's visit with a message from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad for Iranian President Ali Khamenei follows a similar trip to Libya on Sunday. "The objective of Khaddam's visit to Tripoli was to inform the Libyan officials of the outcome of efforts of the (Arab League Reconciliation) committee to solve disputes between Syria, Jordan and Iraq," IRNA said.

Soviets launch manned spacecraft

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union on Tuesday launched a spacecraft carrying three cosmonauts into orbit to join the Salyut-7 space station, the official news agency TASS said. Commander Vladimir Vasyutin, pilot Georgy Grechko and researcher Alexander Volkov blasted off at 1639 Moscow time (1239 GMT), the agency said.

Jordan, Syria agree on steps to improve ties

Prince Abdullah says outcome of Rifai-Kasm talks is positive and augurs well for Arab solidarity

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and Syria on Tuesday reached an agreement on steps to reconcile their differences and improve their relations following two days of intense Saudi-sponsored talks between Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and his Syrian counterpart Abdul Raouf Al Kasm in Jeddah.

In announcing the outcome of the talks, Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz said that both sides have reached an agreement on measures "to create a propitious atmosphere for improving relations between the two countries." He also said that a second round of talks between Jordan and Syria was scheduled for the second half of October.

The Saudi crown prince expressed hope that the agreed steps would help achieve rapid

prochement and cooperation between Jordan and Syria "within the context of total commitment to all resolutions endorsed by consecutive Arab summits, particularly those regarding the Palestinian question, which is our central issue, and Arab solidarity."

The Jeddah meetings marked the first breakthrough in strained relations between the two countries since 1980 when Syria accused Jordan of harbouring anti-Syrian activists of the Muslim Brotherhood movement and sided with Iran in its war against Iraq. In his statement, Prince Abdullah, who presided over the talks in his capacity as the head of the three-member committee set up by an extraordinary Arab summit

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Anniversary of Beirut massacres marked

AMMAN (J.T.) — Tuesday marked the third anniversary of the massacres of hundreds of Palestinian children, women and defenceless old men in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut by Israeli soldiers and their Lebanese allies after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the withdrawal of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from Beirut. The exact number of the dead in two days of massacres is not known even today.

Speaking on the anniversary, Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh, speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), said the anniversary "reminds the Palestinians of an aggression launched on them by their brothers in collaboration with Israel. It is also an occasion to remember that those Lebanese who were allies with the Palestinians during the Israeli invasion have now turned against them and are conducting other massacres at Bourj Al Barajneh refugee camp."

Another Palestinian leader, PLO Executive Committee member Mohammad Milhem, said on the occasion of the anniversary that the massacres represent "Arab revenge on the Palestinian fighters who fought alone the Israeli invaders for 88 days in Beirut."

What happened in Lebanon, he said, "should make the Arabs realise that none of their countries is safe or immune against Israeli atrocities."

Palestinians in Beirut mark massacre anniversary, page 2

U.S. criticises Israeli deportations

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan's administration on Monday criticised Israel for deporting 18 Palestinians who were among hundreds freed under Red Cross-mediated prisoner exchange four months ago.

"We consider the deportations, as likely to foster tension in the area," State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman said. He added the administration considers the action contrary to the Geneva Convention, which in part prohibits deportations of prisoners.

Redman cited Article 49 of the convention as an example. It states: "Individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of the occupying power or to that of any other country, occupied or not, are prohibited, regardless of their motive."

The Palestinians, who were expelled to the East Bank, were among 1,150 freed prisoners.

U.S., Jordan sign \$160m aid accord

Washington 'reviewing' Congress response to arms sales

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United States government is extending a \$160 million grant to Jordan to help it finance imports from the United States over the coming three years.

An agreement on the grant, which is part of \$250 million agreed on during His Majesty King Hussein's visit to the United States in May, was signed here by Planning Minister Abdullah Nour, U.S. ambassador Paul Boeker, and Gerald Towse, director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Jordan.

Speaking after the signing ceremony, Dr. Nour said the grant will be in addition to an annual U.S. grant of \$20 million in technical assistance to Jordan.

The grant will help pay for products imported from the U.S. by the private and public sectors and so it will help Jordan to better its balance of payment situation because the aid will provide hard currency for imports over the coming three years, Dr. Nour said.

He said the grant is bound to boost the economic sector in Jordan because it will be used to help

finance the purchase of products required for development projects. Dr. Nour said \$50 million of the aid will be used this year and the rest will be spread over 1986 and 1987.

In Washington, a White House spokesman said Monday the U.S. administration was "considering possible arms sales to Jordan." Answering reporters' questions whether the administration was concerned that Jordan may follow the example of Saudi Arabia which opted for a deal with Britain to meet its requirements, Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes said:

"We have had some discussions with Congress in regard to our overall study of Middle East and regional needs. We have also had some specific discussions with key members up there regarding the possibility of a Jordanian sale. We have not made a final decision on the Jordanian sale, nor any timing of it."

Asked how concerned the White House is that it might wind up in the same way the Saudi deal did, he said: "We would have to make our judgments based on our

conversations with Congress. I know there is opposition to the sale to Jordan up there, but we will just have to weigh those factors as we make our decision."

Told that both Secretary of State George Shultz and his assistant for the Near East and South Asia, Richard Murphy, have briefed Congress fully on the plans for the sale and that there had been press reports about what was and was not included in the planned deal, Speakes said: "I can tell you that neither the secretary of state nor the president has made decisions on the go or no go or the timing of a sale to Jordan."

Asked if Mr. Shultz and Mr. Murphy might have been testing the waters to see how strong the congressional opposition might be to such a deal, Speakes said: "Testing the waters is not what (expansion) I would use... we have had discussions to determine the congressional reception on such a deal."

He was asked if the deal might occur before His Majesty King Hussein visits Washington on Sept. 30. Speakes said: "I don't have a timetable for it."

Jordan forms committee to aid Sudan

Sudan.

The formation of the committee came one day after Prince Hassan made a direct appeal to the Arab and Islamic worlds to extend help to the Sudanese people now facing the consequences of drought and famine and followed his visit to Sudan last week where he toured refugee camps and saw displaced people living in misery, deprivation and starvation.

The committee is made up of: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, Minister of Energy Hisham Al Khatib, National Jordanian Red Crescent Society President Ahmad Abu Joura, Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Under Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abhadi, Radio and Television Corporation Director-General Nasouh Al Mujali, Ministry of Planning Secretary-General Ziyad Fariz, Jordan Pension Fund Director General Bassam Al

Saket, Mu'ta University President Ali Mahfaza, Prince Hassan's Economic Advisor Ahmad Mango, Dr. Umehk Yusuf, Jordanian Journalists Association President Mahmoud Al Kayed, Jordanian Engineers Association President Ibrahim Abu Ayyash, Jordanian Medical Association President Hassan Khreik, Bar Association President Hussein Mujalli, Amman Chamber of Commerce President Hamdi Al Talha, Amman Chamber of Industry President Isam Budeir, General Union of Voluntary Societies President Abdullah Al Khuth, United Nations Development Programme Representative Adnan Ra'ouf, Association of Arab Banks Director Abdullah Al Malki, Petra Bank Chairman Ahmad Shihli, and businessmen Mohammad Ali Budeir, Mishbah Al Zimeli, Zaki Al Ghoul and Ra'ouf Abu Jaher.

Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abhadi will act as the committee's rapporteur, the announcement said.

Shells pound Gemayel's palace

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Shells and rockets slammed into President Amin Gemayel's palace outside Beirut on Tuesday, badly damaging the building amid an upsurge of sectarian fighting in or around Lebanon's three major cities.

Officials said Mr. Gemayel was inside when several shells and rockets hit the elegant stone palace and its hilltop gardens after nine a.m. (0600 GMT), but the president and his staff and guards were unharmed.

They said a room where Mr. Gemayel presides at cabinet meetings, adjacent offices and the entrance were badly damaged.

Troops loyal to Mr. Gemayel defending the strategic Souq Al Gharb salient above the palace simultaneously fought artillery duels with Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militiamen confronting them.

In the north, rival militias battled during the morning in Tripoli, Lebanon's second city, while in the south Israeli-backed gunmen and Lebanese fighters fought near Sidon.

The palace bombardment came amid a morning of sporadic fighting on the "green line" dividing Beirut and heavy shelling duels involving suburban districts, towns south of the capital, PSP, held mountains to the east and southeast and other areas to the north.

Radios said shells from tanks, artillery and rocket launchers hit many areas on both sides. There was no immediate explanation for the escalation.

Despite the extent and intensity of the fighting, the centre of Beirut was unaffected.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who on Monday night threatened to resign over Monday's bloody fighting in Tripoli, his home town, said it was no coincidence that clashes erupted from city to city where never peace prospects emerged.

Jordan-Syria industry talks open

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The board of directors of the Jordanian-Syrian Company for Industry opened meetings in Damascus Tuesday. The meetings are chaired by Mr. Mohammad Al Saqqaf, under-secretary of the Jordanian Ministry of Industry and Trade, in his capacity as chairman of the company's board of directors. The board will discuss a project of setting up a factory for producing pesticides in Syria with a JD 8 million capital to be shared equally by the two countries, Mr. Saqqaf said. At the first session of the meeting, he said, the board revised the work and activity of the South Cement Company in Jordan in which the joint company owns shares, and which started marketing its products in Syrian and Jordanian markets. More white cement products will shortly be marketed in other Arab and African countries, Mr. Saqqaf said.



Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Syrian counterpart Abdul Raouf Al Kasm bid farewell to each other on Tuesday upon departure from Jeddah where they held two days of talks on reconciling Syrian-Jordanian differences. (Petra photo)

PLO could play direct role in joint delegation, Thatcher says

British prime minister arrives today

CAIRO (Agencies) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who begins a two-day visit to Jordan today, said in Cairo Tuesday that members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) could play a direct role in the first stage of the latest Middle East peace initiative.

Speaking at a news conference after almost two hours of talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, Mrs. Thatcher said the choice of names for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to undertake preliminary talks with the United States was holding up the peace process.

Asked whether the PLO should be included in such a delegation, she said: "It is important that those names should not include people extremely prominent in the PLO but it could include people who have been associated with the PLO as long as they reject terrorism."

She added: "There are a number of PLO members who have rejected terrorism as the way forward."

Mr. Mubarak told British journalists after the talk that Washington should not allow the choice of names for the delegation to hold up peace moves.

"Whether we like it or not, the delegations are going to be selected by the PLO," he said.

The idea of setting up a joint delegation to talk to Washington was proposed by Mr. Mubarak and stemmed from the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO.

These talks were to be a prelude to broader negotiations involving Israel on a regional settlement.

U.S. special envoy Richard Murphy was in Amman last month

but left without meeting a joint delegation, apparently out of concern at the names of Palestinians featuring on the team.

Mrs. Thatcher, who arrived on Monday for a two-day visit, said Tuesday she believed Britain had a role in the process because it was in close touch with Washington and Egypt and Jordan.

"We would like to see a fresh impetus and we believe that lies in getting the first stage of the Murphy meeting under way."

She indicated discussion of the make-up of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation would be a central issue when she meets His Majesty King Hussein in Amman.

Mr. Mubarak told British reporters: "We shouldn't make problems out of small issues. The names should not block us from

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PLO calls for British efforts to reactivate Mideast peace process

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) urged Britain on Monday to take the initiative to reactivate the stalled peace process in the Middle East by receiving a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and supporting the Jordanian-Palestinian call for an international peace conference.

PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Ruhim Ahmad said Britain "could and should, taking into consideration its strong influence on the American administration, reactivate the Middle East peace process by endorsing a clearer and more supportive position towards the joint Jordanian-Palestinian effort."

Mr. Coles said that Mrs. Thatcher told the British House of Commons on Feb. 26 that she believed "the time was propitious for full efforts to arrive at a solution of the Arab-Israeli problem."

"Mrs. Thatcher has expressed her support for the efforts of King Hussein to arrive at a common position among moderate Arab governments," Mr. Coles' statement said. Since then, the ambassador said, the British government has worked to increase international support for these efforts.

Mr. Coles said Britain "greatly values the friendship and cooperation of Jordan." He said Britain has long "admired both the Kingdom's striking social and economic development over the years and its constructive efforts to solve the problems of the area."

Mr. Coles said Mrs. Thatcher will seek to strengthen British-Jordanian relations and "to chart a path for continued cooperation and friendship between Britain and Jordan to the benefit and enrichment of both our countries."

Full text of Mr. Coles' statement appears on page 5.

CAIRO (R) — Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Tuesday the expulsion of 31 alleged agents had "broken the heart" of the Soviet spy network in London.

She told a news conference on the first full day of a Middle East tour the names of those expelled had been supplied by Soviet embassy counsellor and reputed KGB station chief Oleg Gordievsky, whose defection to Britain was announced last week.

She said the expulsions had "broken the heart of Soviet intelligence activity in London" and described the affair as a great achievement for Britain.

Mrs. Thatcher said she hoped Monday's decision to expel six Soviet citizens following 25 expulsions last week would be the end of the matter.

She described Moscow's action in expelling 25 Britons at the weekend as totally unjustified. Thatcher aides said the six ousted on Monday were "second echelon" intelligence operatives.

Mrs. Thatcher said: "We don't wish to have conflict between the Soviet people and our people. We hope the latest expulsions will be the end of the matter and that we can get on with trying to secure that we have fewer armaments..."

But the Soviet embassy in London responded to the latest expulsions with a terse statement describing the action as "provocative and vindictive," adding that Britain would be entirely responsible for any consequences.

British citizens working in Moscow were waiting a Kremlin response on Tuesday to Monday's expulsions.

Western diplomats in Moscow said the Soviet Union was almost certain to take retaliatory steps by expelling more Britons, especially in the light of the response by the Soviet embassy in London.

"Judging by the past few days, they'll throw out six people in corresponding jobs," one West European diplomat said.

Palestinians spend anniversary of Sabra and Shatila massacre rebuilding homes

By John Kohut
Raufer

SHATILA, Lebanon — Palestinian refugees spent the anniversary of the 1982 Falangist militia massacre at Beirut's Sabra and Shatila camps rebuilding homes destroyed in more recent fighting, this time with Shi'ite Muslims.

A five-week Shi'ite siege last May and June ravaged the two camps and added hundreds to the roll of "martyrs" in what Palestinians call a fight for survival in Lebanon.

As men laid breeze blocks for new homes and women shopped for vegetables Monday, camp officials said they had hardly had time to prepare for ceremonies to recall the 1982 massacre.

"People have been so busy rebuilding, and the men are worried about going near the grave, but we must have some sort of ceremony," said an official of the Fateh commando group loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat.

Troops of the army's Shi'ite Sixth Brigade, which helped Shi'ite Amal militiamen win control of Sabra and Shatila, stand guard only a few metres from the mass grave where hundreds of those killed in 1982 are buried.

"The Sixth Brigade and Amal are the same... we don't feel secure with them here," the 26-year-old official said.

The 1982 massacre by headline

Falangist militiamen began on Sept. 15 as Israeli troops surrounded the camps after entering west Beirut in their invasion of Lebanon. In two days, hundreds of Palestinians died.

One woman described how she lost a son in the massacre. "Majid, my son, left the house on Friday (Sept. 16) and didn't come back," she said. "I ran everywhere like a madman looking for him."

"There were hordes of militiamen running through the streets, some with guns, but most just with knives," she said.

"Everywhere there were bodies piled on top of each other — men, women, children. I saw one pregnant lady with her stomach slit open and the foetus sticking out — its head was cut off."

"I finally found Majid after two days, dead. They hacked his neck and head," she said. "The only

reason I wasn't killed was probably because the militiamen thought I was mad."

Sitting on a cement block in the ruins of her house, the front blown off during the Shi'ite siege, she broke into tears only as she recalled two of Majid's friends, killed in the fighting last May.

"The 1985 events hurt more than the 1982 massacre because we knew the Kataeb (Falangist militia) were our enemies and knew what they would do," she said. "But Amal was our friend."

Elsewhere in the Middle East, pro-Syrian commando groups are the sworn enemies of Mr. Arafat's Fateh, but among the 11 factions represented in the camp, there is no apparent enmity. Mr. Arafat supporters sit in a rival group's office, chatting over coffee.

"Politically, we have our differences but in the camps we have

to talk to each other," said Zainab Jaber, an official of the Women's Union and of an anti-Arafat group led by Abu Mousa. "The situation forces us to work together," she added.

About 700 people were killed and 2,500 wounded in the recent fighting at Sabra, Shatila, and at the nearby Bourj Al Barajneh refugee camp which Amal failed to capture.

Buildings which did not collapse under Shi'ite tank and rocket fire are pockmarked with dozens of shell-holes.

Most shops on the pot-holed, unpaved streets are still shuttered, but residents say about 30 per cent of the inhabitants have returned. A Syrian contracting firm cleared away most of the rubble last month, and about a dozen new breeze-block houses started going up 10 days ago.



Dead bodies of elderly Palestinians lie in the middle of a street in Shatila Refugee Camp near Beirut, in the aftermath of the 1982 massacre by Israeli-supported Falangist militiamen during which hundreds of unarmed Palestinians were ruthlessly murdered (UNRWA photo)

Peres optimistic about Soviet contacts

TEL AVIV (R) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres spoke Tuesday of more openness in contacts with the Soviet Union since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power.

In an interview marking the Jewish New Year, Mr. Peres told state radio he was awaiting a reply to a letter he sent to Mr. Gorbachev last week.

"From the general impression I have gotten, although there is

nothing concrete, a certain openness has been created... in other words for continuing contacts," he said.

The Soviet Union broke relations with Israel during the 1967 Middle East war. Successive Israeli governments have urged a restoration of diplomatic ties.

Mr. Peres' letter was delivered by American Jewish leader Edgar Bronfman, who was in Moscow

with a business delegation. Israeli newspapers speculated it offered the prospect of Israeli gestures if more Jews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union.

Officials here have suggested that in the publicity campaign leading up to the U.S.-Soviet summit next November, Moscow might consider it advantageous to present a more liberal image on Jewish emigration, now at a record low.

GCC ministers begin Gulf security talks

RIYADH (R) — Interior Ministers from the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) opened two days of talks Tuesday on joint security with a call for collective measures to face regional threats.

The talks follow a flare-up in the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war and a wave of bomb attacks in Kuwait, heightening security concerns among the six states — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad told the opening session: "The area has

been subjected to events which aim at undermining our sovereignty. We have to face these threats collectively."

GCC sources said a proposal on security strategy prepared by the council's secretariat and submitted to the member states would be discussed, but that a common security pact, which Kuwait has yet to ratify, was not on the agenda.

Kuwait objects to clauses in the pact allowing GCC members to chase criminals over each other's borders, diplomats say.

Iran seeks to improve image abroad

TEHRAN — The Iranian government is striving to improve its image and gain friends in the international arena.

Recent attempts to have taught the Iranian government that it is difficult to be alone in the international arena — a fact which became apparent in 1980, at the start of the war with Iraq, when no country in the international community condemned the Iraqis for invading Iran. This realisation has evolved over time, leading to Iran's slow emergence from post-revolutionary isolation and to the current efforts to restore contacts and connections with the rest of the world.

President Ali Khamenei recently pointed out to a group of Iranian ambassadors that Iran must seek new allies. The ambassadors were at a meeting in Tehran to appraise the results of their overseas missions.

All Iran's leaders agree that exporting the revolution must be the cornerstone of their foreign policy, says an Iranian official. "When we say that we want to export our revolution we mean business," one Iranian ambassador says. "But don't misunderstand me — we don't intend to invade or occupy any foreign country." — Christian Science Monitor.

Jordan, Syria agree on moves

(Continued from page 1)

The Jeddah talks were presided over by Prince Abdullah and attended by Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Khlifi and Tunisia's permanent representative to the Arab League, Ali Taieb Al Sahbani. Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali, who represents his country in the committee, is currently on an official visit to Czechoslovakia.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia added weight to the reconciliation effort in the course of a meeting held with the two prime ministers of Jordan and Syria shortly after their first four-hour session took place on Monday. Mr. Rifai and Mr. Kasim later on that day met separately.

The Jordanian side to the meeting included Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jaseem while the Syrian side included Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara'a. The meetings followed visits the reconciliation committee paid to Damascus, Amman and Baghdad last week, but no indication of success has so far emerged from its efforts to arrive at an understanding between Iraq and Syria.

Syria boycotted the Casablanca conference at which the committee was initiated, mainly because of its opposition to a drive being waged jointly by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to talk the U.S. into sponsoring a new Middle East peace drive.

Syria's differences with Amman

and the PLO chairmanship of Yasser Arafat were one of the main reasons holding up Riyadh's hosting of the regular Arab summit conference, originally scheduled for November 1983.

A senior diplomat in Amman told the Jordan Times on Tuesday that Saudi Arabia hopes that success in settling Syria's differences with Jordan would help in reconciling Syria with Iraq. "Riyadh is in fact seeking to arrange a mini-summit of the leaders of Jordan, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia," the diplomat said.

Other than Syria's support for Iran in the five-year-old war, Syria's backing of dissidents against Mr. Arafat and its opposition to the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO rank high among the causes for tension between Amman and Damascus.

Political sources here noted that the strong political and personal opposition to the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO agreement by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad would be one of the most difficult differences to overcome.

The PLO has welcomed the reconciliation efforts between Syria and Jordan as a step towards restoring Arab solidarity, and PLO officials told the Jordan Times on Tuesday that a Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement "would reflect well on efforts to find a solution for the Palestinian question since both Jordan and the PLO agree that Syria should take part in the suggested international conference."

Saudi aide holds talks with Kohl

BONN (R) — Prince Salman Abdul Aziz, for many years governor of Saudi Arabia's central province, held talks with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl Tuesday on bilateral and international issues, a government spokesman said.

The prince's visit was made in connection with the opening in Cologne of an exhibition dealing with the development of Riyadh, ad, the capital of Saudi Arabia and the central province.

The spokesman said Prince Salman and Mr. Kohl exchanged views on political and economic relations and the Middle East situation. Mr. Kohl underlined Saudi Arabia's role as West Germany's most important trading partner in the Arab World.

The chancellor also praised Saudi Arabia for its efforts towards Arab unity, saying Bonn believed constructive unity among the Arab states was a decisive condition for the reduction of tension in the region.

Saudi prince may sign new arms deal next week

LONDON (R) — Saudi Arabian Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz will visit Britain next week and may sign a £3 billion (\$4 billion) arms deal, the Saudi embassy said Tuesday.

A spokesman told Reuters the prince was expected here around Sept. 25. His schedule is still being finalised.

British defence sources said the sale of 48 Tornado combat jets and 30 Hawk trainers would give Britain a major stake in Saudi defence well into the 21st Century. They said Britain had benefited from political constraints on U.S. arms exports to Arab countries. "The American Jewish lobby has done us a favour," one aviation official said.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher could sign a £270 million (\$350 million) arms deal when she visits Jordan this week, the defence sources said.

They said it included electronic warfare equipment, anti-aircraft installations and fast patrol boats. Officials in Washington said the Saudis cleared the British deal with President Reagan before going ahead. They had previously sought to buy U.S. F-15 fighters. The powerful U.S. Jewish lobby strongly opposes arms sales to

Saudi Arabia which they say threaten Israel's security.

Unlike the United States, which has in the past put limitations on where the Saudis could base their weapons to reassure the Israelis, Britain is offering the Saudis the planes with no strings attached.

"As far as we're concerned, when the customer is paying in good money, the customer is always right," the aviation official said.

The Saudis are buying the jet, indirectly confirmed reports published here that President Reagan had written to King Fahd assuring him the United States would not object to the British deal.

"I would not steer you away from that story," said the official, speaking on condition he was not identified.

The Saudis turned to Britain after it became clear that strong congressional opposition to major new arms sales to Arab states was forcing the Reagan administration to retreat from plans to sell the kingdom 40 additional F-15s.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the administration had decided not to pursue the matter even though it believed the Saudis remained keen on more F-15s.

"There is no sale to Saudi Ara-

bia) of a major new weapons system under consideration at this time," he stated.

Redman said the United States anticipated continuing security cooperation with Saudi Arabia, including selling parts for existing weapons and providing services and munitions.

Officials have made clear the administration still wants to provide new weapons to Jordan, a key player in the Middle East peace process, despite congressional opposition.

Washington seeks eventual direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel.

Congressional sources said the Saudi decision was unlikely to quench opposition to the Jordan sale in the absence of more peace progress.

Although some said it was too early to assess the impact, most agreed with the staff director of a key congressional subcommittee who said: "I don't see it forcing Congress into approving the Jordan sale."

Jordan has asked for F-16 or F-20 fighters and improved Hawk anti-aircraft missiles. Israel opposes the sale.

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19:30 News in French
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07:30 Newsday
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Contd.
09:30 News Bulletin
10:00 Pop Session
10:30 News Summary
11:00 Pop Session Contd.
11:30 News Bulletin
12:00 The Young Sound
12:30 Concert Hour
13:00 News Summary
13:30 News Bulletin
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 News Bulletin
15:00 News Bulletin
15:30 News Bulletin
16:00 News Bulletin
16:30 News Bulletin
17:00 News Bulletin
17:30 News Bulletin
18:00 News Bulletin
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20:00 News Bulletin
20:30 News Bulletin
21:00 News Bulletin
21:30 News Bulletin
22:00 News Bulletin
22:30 News Bulletin
23:00 News Bulletin
23:30 News Bulletin
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1415 KHz

07:00 Newsday 07:30 Waveguide 07:00
Book Choice 07:45 Financial News
08:00 24 Hours News Summary 08:30
What's New 08:45 The World Today
09:00 Newsday 09:30 Omnibus 10:00
World News 10:30 24 Hours: News
Summary 10:30 The Falconer's Tale
10:45 The World Today 10:50
11:00 Newsday 11:15 Classical Record
Review 11:30 Only By Women
12:00 World News 12:30 British Press
Review 12:45 The World Today 12:50
Financial News 12:50 Derby Review
12:55 Kitten on the Keys 13:00 News
Summary: Discovery 13:30 Johnson and
Simpson 14:00 News 14:30 News
Summary 14:30 Personal History
14:35 A Letter from Wales 14:30 Meridian
15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 D.H.
Lawrence 15:25 The Farming World
15:45 Sports 16:00 World News
Summary 16:00 24 Hours: News Summary
16:30 Music from the Movies 17:00
News Summary: Outlook 17:45 The
Satanic Choir 18:00 News 18:30
18:45 A Gift of God 18:30 After Heavy
19:00 World News 19:30 Commentary
19:45 Countdown 19:45 The World
Today 20:00 World News 20:00 A Letter
from Wales 20:15 Monitor 20:30
Assignment 20:35 Waveguide 20:40
Book Choice 20:45 Sports Round-up
21:00 Newsday 21:30 Promenade Con-
cert 21:45 The Farming World 22:00
News Summary: Outlook 22:25 Out-
look 23:00 World News 23:30 24 Hours:
News Summary 23:45 Alban Time
23:50 Assignment 24:00 News Sum-
mary: Personal Story 00:15 Inter-
national Soccer Special 00:45 Rec-
ordings of the Week 01:25 A Letter from
Wales 01:30 Financial News 01:40 Ref-
lections 01:45 Sports Round-up 02:00
World News 02:00 Commentary 02:15
Good Books 02:30 Top Twenty

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 2565, 11740,
11925 and 13210 KHz

07:00 News 07:30 Newsday 07:30 VOA
Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsday
08:30 VOA Morning 08:30 News 09:10
Newsday 09:30 VOA Morning/News
Summary 09:30 News 10:10 Newsday
10:30 News 10:30 Newsday 10:30
Focus 10:30 Special English News &
Features 20:00 News 20:10 Newsday
20:30 Magazine Show 21:00 News 21:10
Focus 21:30 Special English News &
Features 22:00 News 22:10 Newsday
22:30 News 22:30 Newsday 22:30
America 22:30 Music USA 22:40 News
& Editorial 23:15 Music USA Jazz 23:40
News 00:10 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIO

* An art exhibition by Bassam Nasser at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* An exhibition of great works at the French Cultural Centre.

* A special painting exhibition by a number of Jordanian artists, organised by the Jordanian Club, at Petra Bank Gallery, Wadi Sagra (daily 09:00-14:00 and 16:00-19:00)

CINEMA

* "Ruy Blas" at 7:45 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

FILM

* "The ABC News — the McLaughlin Group — at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

LECTURE

* ACD — past, present and future, by Dr. David McCree at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel: 6610267
American Centre 644371
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641995
Soviet Cultural Centre 642043
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 637777
Hays Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 6671816
Y.W.M.A. 641795
American Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Marabab and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Crescent Hill).

OPENING HOURS: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Minutemen, Jabel Lebanon. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel: 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel: 654240.
People's Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel: 637169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Service Club: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphian Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 4:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel: 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Amman, Tel: 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabel Levanon, 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abadi, 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabel Amman, 678906.
American Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 771751.

PRAYER TIMES

04:00 Fajr
06:22 (Shriya) Dhuha
12:31 Duha
16:42 Asr
18:30 Maghrib
20:04 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel: (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:35 Cairo (MS)
07:25 London, Larnaca (BA)
08:25 Karachi (PK)
08:35 Athens (AF)
08:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:30 Senae (Y)
09:35 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:45 Jeddah (RJ)
10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Dhahran (RJ)
11:15 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
11:35 Bahrain (GA)
12:35 Kuwait (RJ)
12:45 Jeddah (SV)
13:15 Baghdad (AF)
13:25 Beirut (MEA)
13:35 Larnaca (RJ)
14:15 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
14:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
14:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
18:30 London, Paris (RJ)
19:30 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 Athens, Rome (PK)
19:45 Athens (OY)
19:50 Damascus, Rome (AZ)
19:55 Vienna, New York (RJ)
19:55 London (RJ)
19:55 Kuwait (RJ)
19:55 Larnaca (RJ)
19:55 Athens (RJ)
19:55 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)
19:55 Saudi riyal, 107/9 108/6
19:55 Swedish crown, 46/2 46/6
19:55 Swiss franc, 164/9 166/2
19:55 Syrian lire, 33/3 34
19:55 UAE dirham, 107/3 108/6
19:55 U.K. sterling pound, 525/5 529/7
19:55 U.S. dollar, 391/2 395/8
19:55 W. German mark, 136/1 137/2

DEPARTURES

07:25 Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)
08:30 Athens (RJ)
08:35 Larnaca, London (RJ)
08:45 Athens, Rome (PK)
09:30 Athens (OY)
09:35 Damascus, Rome (AZ)
10:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
10:00 London (RJ)
10:00 Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Larnaca (RJ)
10:00 Athens (RJ)
10:00 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)
10:00 Saudi riyal, 107/9 108/6
10:00 Swedish crown, 46/2 46/6
10:00 Swiss franc, 164/9 166/2
10:00 Syrian lire, 33/3 34
10:00 UAE dirham, 107/3 108/6
10:00 U.K. sterling pound, 525/5 529/7
10:00 U.S. dollar, 391/2 395/8
10:00 W. German mark, 136/1 137/2

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

* Golden Abidjan
* Blue Abacoar
* Alkanania

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot, with light and variable winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Low/high temperature in deg. C.
Amman 18/34
Aqaba 24/35
Desert 17/36
Jordan Valley 22/37

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 35, Aqaba 34, Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Aqaba 31 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Tuesday rates
Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Bahraini dinar 121/1 121/1
Dutch guilder 252/5 250
Egyptian pound 44/7 45/1
Iraqi dinar 362/5 370
Japanese yen (for 100) 162/2 163/5
Kuwaiti dinar 1285/5 1292/5

Damascus talks on land transport were positive, official says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Talks held between Jordanian and Syrian officials in Damascus over the past two days were positive and laid down concepts for further bolstering transport cooperation between the two countries, according to Bassam Jaqish, chairman of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company.

Speaking to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, following the conclusion of talks in the Syrian capital, Mr. Jaqish said that an agreement was reached on the need for paying up the rest of the company's unpaid capital over the coming three years.

The company's capital is JD 8 million, but only JD 5 million have been paid up, Mr. Jaqish noted. He said that the company which was established in 1976 now owns 360 lorries employed to ferry goods for public and private sectors in both countries.

The Damascus meeting agreed that an additional 50 lorries should be purchased in the light of the increasing growth of the company's operations, Mr. Jaqish added.

The talks in Damascus were headed by Transport Minister

Fathi Obeid and his Syrian counterpart Yusef Ahmad both of whom Sunday signed minutes of the meeting, the first high-level contact between the two countries since 1980.

Land transport cooperation among Arab countries has meanwhile received support and backing from the Arab Land Transport Union (ALTU) at its 13th meeting held in Tunisia.

Mr. Abdullah Dumur, ALTU's secretary general who returned to Amman from Tunis said that the union's board passed several resolutions designed to bolster land transport operations in the Arab World.

The ALTU board called for cooperation between the Arab Transport Ministers Council and various Arab land transport organisations and decided to support the work of an institute for training personnel employed in land transport operations within the Arab World, he said.

Mr. Dumur said the board made a general review of a draft agreement on land transport which will be referred to the forthcoming Arab Transport ministers meeting.

Health minister calls for Arab federation for drug production

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh has called for speedy measures to be taken for the establishment of an Arab Federation for the production of drugs and medical appliances. He said that the formation of such a federation will have its beneficial results on the manufacturing of drugs and medicine in the Arab World and will "greatly help the process of research in this matter which, in turn, would reduce Arab reliance on foreign-made medicines."

The minister was addressing a meeting of a preparatory committee entrusted with establishing the federation, grouping representatives of five Arab organisations.

In his address, the minister said that such a federation will be a further contribution towards Arab economic integration.

"Such Federation will in future help promote the work and operations of pharmaceutical industries in the Arab World," the minister added.

"Health security for any nation is among its priorities in national projects due to the importance of drugs and medicines to all citizens," Dr. Hamzeh said.

He said that the Arab Health Ministers Council has repeatedly underlined the importance of

pan-Arab cooperation in the drug manufacturing industry and called for the introduction of a pan-Arab strategy in this concern.

"The Arab Ministers Council has proposed the establishment of the projected federation because of its positive results and to help Arab countries cooperate in the manufacturing of drugs and medicine," Dr. Hamzeh added.

Addressing the meeting later was Mohammad Al Sahrf, acting secretary general of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) where the meeting is taking place.

He said the federation is important because it will handle matters pertaining to health, and aims at developing drug industries which, in turn, preserve citizens' health.

He referred to efforts being made to bring this project into being and to the required qualified personnel who can be employed to help Arab drug industries reduce Arab countries' dependence on foreign-made drugs.

Lacking part in the meeting are delegates from the Arab Union of Pharmacists, the Arab Health Ministers Council, the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA) and CAEU.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday inaugurates the electrification of eight new villages in the Jerash District (Petra photo)

British defence team meets senior officials, discusses peace efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi told a visiting delegation from the Royal College for Defence Studies in the United Kingdom that Jordan is pursuing constant efforts to establish a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

He said that Jordan "embodies a true unity between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples who have common objectives and common destiny."

"Jordan has therefore supported the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights and recover their usurped lands in implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and to help the Palestinians determine their own future on their national soil," Mr. Lawzi said at a meeting with the delegation led by Mr. H.M. Balfour.

Mr. Lawzi spoke of the dangers of Israel's occupation of Arab land and its illegal measures against the Arab inhabitants and its expansionist plans and settlements on Arab territory.

Mr. Lawzi called on Britain and the European Community to play a more constructive role in the process of bringing justice to the Palestinian people.

During the meeting, Mr. Lawzi also spoke about parliamentary rule in Jordan stressing the importance of the role of the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament in shaping the Kingdom's policies.

Several Upper House members were present at the meeting. The delegation later met with Minister of Industry and Trade Rajal Muasher who briefed them on economic projects being implemented in the country.

Dr. Muasher briefed the delegation on laws and regulations that give incentives to foreign investments in the country and which, he said, are required to help carry out the coming five-year national development plan.

The delegation members called afterwards at the army headquarters in Amman and conferred with Armed Forces Commander in Chief Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The delegation was briefed on the role and responsibilities of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

British Ambassador to Jordan Arthur John Coles and his military attaché attended the briefing.

The delegation arrived in Amman on Saturday for a visit to Jordan which includes meetings with Jordanian officials and a tour of archaeological sites.

Hamzeh: Jordan gives attention to specifications of potable water

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said here Tuesday Jordan gives proper attention to and is deeply concerned with specifications and standards of potable water because many infectious diseases are contracted through contaminated water resources.

Dr. Hamzeh also announced that a project for drawing water from the East Ghor Canal in the Jordan Valley to Amman — the area most densely populated in Jordan — is nearing completion and that the government is keen on supplying sufficient amounts of water to all citizens in the Kingdom.

Dr. Hamzeh was addressing a three-day symposium on the quality of drinking water in Jordan held at Yarmouk University Lia-

ison Office in Amman. He said the symposium will focus attention on introducing amendments to existing regulations on potable water and will also give attention to the bottled water, its sources and the reason for its rising cost.

The Jordanian government is keen on maintaining constant and regular tests on drinking water and is currently executing a programme on monitoring water resources and water environment to safeguard public health safety, the minister said.

The meeting was addressed later by Engineer Shawqi Bishara, coordinator for the environmental health centre of the World Health Organisation (WHO) which is co-sponsoring the symposium with the Health Ministry in Jordan.

He commended Jordanian health regulations concerning testing and inspection of water sources saying:

"Despite the meagre resources of this country, it has provided skilled and well-trained manpower to handle the water problem."

During the symposium, new standards and regulations concerning water in Jordan will be drawn up in line with WHO regulations.

The opening session was attended by Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran, the under secretaries of the ministries of information and health, Water Authority of Jordan Director Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani and other concerned officials.

Crown prince inaugurates electric supply to eight villages in Jerash district

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday attended a celebration marking the supply of eight villages in Jerash district with electricity.

In a brief speech, at the inauguration ceremony, Prince Hassan conveyed to the local inhabitants greetings from His Majesty King Hussein and his wishes for further progress and prosperity for this region.

Prince Hassan who was accompanied by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and other officials was briefed on details of the project and on other services being provided to the eight villages, located south of Jerash.

Representatives of the local population and villages made speeches voicing their allegiance to the King and expressing their appreciation for the government's efforts in providing services to their districts.

The electrification project for the villages of Salhouh, Rahmaniya, Murassa, Musallabeh, Jubbeh, Talat Al Ruz, Al Mushairfeh, Al Sharqiye and Al Mushairfeh Gharbia cost around JD 494,000.

The project entailed building transformer stations and laying cables along 24.3 kilometres and setting up 1,420 electricity posts.

A total of 6,753 people in the region will benefit from the project, according to Abdul Ra'ouf Al Sheikh, director general of the Irbid District Electricity Company (IDEC) which undertook the project.

Mr. Sheikh said with the electrification of the eight villages IDEC has thus supplied electric power to 9601 subscribers in the Jerash district or 77,908 inhabitants; 95 per cent of the total inhabitants of Jerash district.

In a speech on this occasion Mr. Sheikh said IDEC supervises the process of generating and distributing electric power to all regions in Irbid, Mafrqa, Wadi Zarqa and areas as far as the Syrian border in the north and the Iraqi border in the east, an area of 8,328 square kilometres.

This region he said contains 235

cities and villages.

He said that the number of towns and villages benefiting from IDEC projects will reach 296 by the end of next year.

Referring to the company's (1986-90) five-year plan, Mr. Sheikh said that plans have been laid for the electrification of 113 villages, and the company will also carry out projects for modernising existing networks to provide better services to Ramtha, Jerash, Mafrqa, Ajloun, Huwara, Huson and Sarh.

The total cost of these projects, he said, is expected to reach JD 14,427 million.

Following the inauguration celebration Prince Hassan paid a visit to the Jerash government school for boys and inspected its services and classes.

He also called at the local police station and was briefed on the services and duties of the security officers and police for the Jerash district.

Also accompanying the Crown Prince on his tour were Jordan Electricity Authority Director Mohammad Arafat, Irbid Governor Mohammad Al Amin, and Jerash district officials.

Ministry sets up team to study proposals to amend existing municipal laws

AMMAN (Petra) — A six member sub-committee was set up to lay down proposals on introducing amendments and modernisation to the existing municipalities laws and regulations.

The sub-committee was formed by a committee entrusted with preparing for a general conference of municipalities and village councils which is due to be held early next year.

Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Under Secretary Awad Al Tal said that the modernisation of the laws and regulations will open the door wide for developing the work of local councils in their regions, which in turn would serve development purposes.

The sub-committee which comprises the mayors of Irbid, Madaba, Salt, Jweisemeh, Karak and a representative of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs "will enlist expertise and seek advice from local councils," Mr. Tal said.

The sub-committee he said will hold its first meeting next Tuesday.

According to Mr. Tal, the projected conference will focus attention on all matters that concern the local municipal and village councils. Several working papers on a variety of subjects will be taken up by the participants.

These, he said, will tackle the role of councils in protecting the

environment, municipal services and development of rules and laws governing the councils' operations.

The committee which met under the chairmanship of Minister Marwan Humud has decided to set up two smaller sub-committees one to prepare and follow up subjects for discussion at the planned general conference and the second to gather and co-

ordinate working papers for that conference.

The preparatory committee which is chaired by Mr. Humud comprises Mr. Tal along with directors of public works, finance, legal affairs, industry, municipalities, and villages. Representatives of Amman Municipality and the Cities and Villages Development Bank.

Italian aerobatics team to perform in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The national aerobatics team, Frecce Tricolori, of the Italian Air Force will pay an official visit to Jordan, according to a press release circulated by the Italian embassy in Amman Tuesday.

The team will perform two air shows the first of which will take place at Marka Airport on Thursday, Sept. 19, and the second will take place at Mafrqa Airport on Sunday, Sept. 20.

The team has acquired a well deserved reputation as one of the best teams of the world, with a tradition that goes back to 1930, they have taken part in international air shows in many countries, the press release said.

The Frecce Tricolori flies the Aci Macchi MB 339A, a two seat jet trainer currently employed by Italian Air Force both for training and for operational missions.

The 10 pilots forming the team were chosen after a tight screening since their work requires the broadest technical background, the press release said.

The team which belongs to 313rd Squadron of the Italian Air Force based at Rivolto Airport near Venice, are considered a fully operational unit.

The group is also accompanied by a number of technicians who assist the pilots in the fulfilment of their task.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tal receives farmers' delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Prime Minister's Counsellor Mreived Al Tal on Tuesday received a delegation representing the farmers of Ghor Al Safi in Karak governorate. The delegation presented several requests in regard to the distribution of agricultural units in Ghor Al Safi. Mr. Al Tal promised to convey their requests to Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, and emphasised the government's keenness to redistribute agricultural units in the southern parts of the Kingdom with priority given to native farmers. The government intends to develop the Jordan Valley within the framework of the current socio-economic plan.

Team arrives for Arabisation conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Rabat-based bureau for coordinating Arabisation arrived Tuesday in Amman to take part in the 5th Conference for Arabisation, scheduled to convene on Sept. 21. The delegation of the bureau which is affiliated with the Arab Organisation for Education, Culture and Sciences (AOECS), includes Mr. Mahdi Al Deiri, Fu'ad Ham-moudh, Mohammad Fousseih, Mohammad Al Mallah and Moh-yeddin Al Masri.

Chinese youth team visits Yarmouk

IRBID (Petra) — A youth delegation from the People's Republic of China Tuesday visited Yarmouk University. The delegation met senior officials there and was briefed on the university's activities.

German jazz group to perform in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Barrelhouse Jazz Band, West Germany's most famous and longest existing traditional jazz band, will be giving two performances in Amman on Sept. 19 and 21. The event will offer Jordanian jazz enthusiasts an opportunity to be enchanted by the most prominent jazz band in Frankfurt. The Barrelhouse Band has toured more than 40 countries including the U.S. and many Asian and African countries. The performances will be held at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel and is organised by the hotel in cooperation with Lufthansa.

Dughkan pledges agricultural support

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dughkan on Tuesday pledged his ministry's support for efforts to improve agricultural production in both the Zarqa and Mafrqa governorates. Mr. Dughkan made these promises during an inspection tour to both governorates, whose administrative status has recently been raised from the district level. The minister, accompanied by Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Saleem Al Lawzi, met with the governor and the director of the agricultural department in each governorate. Mr. Dughkan urged both governorates to increase their agricultural activities and promised that his ministry would provide both districts with necessary help and technical expertise.

Young Strings in Action to raise funds for Amman conservatory

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — When the Young Strings in Action children's orchestra of Washington, D.C. performed at last year's Jerash Festival, Jordanian audiences were enthralled by a talented and very special group of American youngsters.

A year later, the children and adults of Jordan are now discovering precisely how special the young American musicians really are. Since returning home last year, they and their gifted teacher, Sheila Johnson, have generated considerable interest in a project to establish a music conservatory in Amman to teach violin to young Jordanians.

The campaign reaches its peak with a benefit musical performance in Washington, D.C. in a few weeks' time. The Oct. 1 performance aims to raise funds to establish the Amman children's conservatory, and allow the Young Strings in Action to visit Jordan once again for the inauguration of the conservatory.

The benefit evening, hosted by District of Columbia Mayor Marion Barry and Congressman Walter Fauntroy, will be held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Washington, D.C., which is donating its ballroom and reception area for the occasion.

The Jordan Society, a non-profit organisation established in the United States to promote relations between the American and Jordanian people, is coordinating the benefit evening. It has sought \$500 and \$250 donations from corporations and individuals respectively, and expects the evening to be attended by up to 500 guests who will each pay \$35 to attend the performance.

The noted American jazz singer Pearl Bailey has volunteered to introduce the evening's performers, all of whom will donate

their talent for the cause of establishing a children's musical conservatory in Amman. The performers at the benefit evening are the Louise Bellen Jazz Quartet, jazz violinist Noel Poiater, and classical pianist Joseph Holt.

The year-old effort to raise funds for the Amman children's conservatory aims to raise a total of \$105,000, or about JD 40,000, which would establish the Amman conservatory and see it through its first three years of operations.

The money would equip a conservatory with one or two pianos, 50 children's violins, and enough music and classroom materials for a starting enrollment of 45 Jordanian students between the ages of 6 and 12 years.

An existing Jordanian institution (most probably the Royal Cultural Centre) would provide the rooms for the conservatory, whose four instructors would be paid by tuition fees and scholarship funds.

The funds raised in Washington, D.C. would also be used to send the Young Strings in Action to Jordan for the inauguration of the Amman conservatory, tentatively scheduled for December of this year. While here, the Young Strings in Action would play three concerts during their five-day visit, as well as visiting Jordanian schools to stimulate interest in the new conservatory.

While here, the Young Strings in Action will also perform a new composition for strings written specially for the occasion by the American composer Robert Washburn, who is expected to travel with the young American musicians. The composition will be presented as a gift from the children of the United States to the children of Jordan.

The Young Strings in Action children's string orchestra, established in 1972, numbers 109 children between the ages of 3 and

18, though only 15 children would make the trip to Jordan. The orchestra is affiliated with the National Learning Centre in Washington, D.C., which operates the Capital Children's Museum. The orchestra performs regularly in public concerts at American educational and cultural centers and on public television.

Her Majesty Queen Noor invited the Young Strings in Action to perform at the 1984 Jerash Festival after she had visited the Capital Children's Museum several times since 1981. The effort to launch the children's music conservatory in Amman is being coordinated here by the Al Noor Foundation, which was established earlier this month to coordinate the various projects with which the Queen is involved.

Orchestra director Sheila Johnson plans to spend three weeks in Jordan training four Jordanian instructors in the Rolland String Method that she uses to teach her child students in the United States and other countries. She would return to Jordan for three one-week visits to the conservatory during the first year to review instruction techniques with the teachers and monitor the progress of the students.

Musical conservator William Weaver has agreed to donate his time and expertise to travel to Amman to train a Jordanian in the proper care, maintenance and repair of violins. He will also donate a violin repair kit.

Other donations include \$5,000 from Black Entertainment Television, \$3,000 worth of music class books and sheet music from Boosey-Hawkes Music Publishers, and 12 children's violins (worth \$1,620) from Sheila Johnson and the Centre for Transnational Projects.

The Al Noor Foundation has been busy at this end interviewing prospective violin teachers and a violin repairman for the new con-



The Young Strings in Action performing at the 1984 Jerash Festival (Photo by Bill Lyons)

servatory.

Ms. Johnson has established similar programmes in England, Switzerland and many communities throughout the United States. At the 1984 Jerash Festival, after every performance of the Young Strings in Action scores of young Jordanians clamoured onto the stage to handle the children's violins.

"I'll never forget how the Jordanian children picked up our instruments at Jerash and pulled on me saying in Arabic 'teach me to play, teach me to play,'" Ms. Johnson said recently.

There are various institutes in Jordan to teach music, but none specifically offers violin instruction for children.

Children enrolled in the conservatory will each receive one

and a half hours of instruction per week, half an hour in private session and an hour in a group lesson.

The conservatory programme is scheduled to start in December, and by the summer of 1986 the Jordanian students would start giving small-scale performances. If all goes according to plan, the Jordanian and American child musicians would give a joint concert at the 1987 Jerash Festival.

Israel is making war not seeking peace

By Salameh Ne'matt

WASHINGTON — The present Israeli government will not make peace with the Arabs because it cannot, one student of Middle East politics remarked here recently. His observation is very nearly correct.

Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have a peace plan. Egypt has a plan. The Arabs as a whole have a plan. The United States has a plan. The Soviet Union has a plan. The European bloc has their Venice declaration of 1980. But the Israeli government has no plan. Prime Minister Shimon Peres says everything is negotiable and has presented proposals for negotiations but he has no real peace plan. And there is little pressure on his government to develop one.

"There will be no serious effort towards peace until there is meaningful opposition in the Knesset

(parliament)," says Israeli Shahak, an Israeli peace activist who is also chairman of the Israeli League for Human and Civil Rights.

There is little hope of this opposition developing. Dr. Shahak says. Israel now is ruled by a broad coalition that covers nearly the entire spectrum of political opinion in Israel, from the ultra-leftist communist party to the ultra-rightist Kach Party, and there is little hope that the picture will soon change.

Dr. Shahak says that political opinion in Israel can be divided into three categories: 15 per cent are supporters of the grouping of Kach, which is the party of Rabbi Meir Kahane, and the rightwing Tehiya Party. This group calls for the expulsion of Arabs from the occupied territories and considers Menachem Begin a "traitor" for relinquishing Sinai to Egypt.

The second group is the coalition of Labour and Likud which

represents 75 per cent of the public opinion.

"The Likud-Labour coalition is in agreement on the goals of the Israeli establishment but has differences on how to achieve them," according to Dr. Shahak, who is a scientist and a professor of chemistry at the Hebrew University. "The differences between Labour and the Likud are not fundamental," he maintains.

The third category, representing 10 per cent of Israeli public opinion, groups the Progressive List for Peace and the Communist Party. These two groups are in favour of the establishment of a Palestinian state in the occupied territories.

Dr. Shahak says that the overwhelming majority of public opinion in Israel (75 per cent) represented by Labour and the Likud are currently in agreement on basic policies.

Regarding the settlement pol-

icy, the difference between the two parties is that Likud wants settlements "in the middle of Arab towns while Labour prefers to surround Arab population centres," Dr. Shahak explains.

Most settlements in the occupied Arab territories were built during the Labour Party's rule between 1967 and 1977.

The same is true as far as the central Arab-Israeli conflict is concerned. Both Labour and the Likud seek permanent Israeli control of the occupied territories, although there are here differences over how to do it.

A senior Israeli official here was recently quoted as saying that Israeli "security" demands continued occupation of the West Bank and the Golan Heights.

The official said: "How can there be any peace based in the boundaries that existed before June 5, 1967 when these boundaries invited the June war of

that year."

"We can put no trust in Arab guarantees to respect our borders," he said.

The Israeli coalition government can reach agreement when it comes to military action, but peace is another issue altogether, Dr. Shahak says.

Conflicting views in Israel have virtually paralysed Peres who said at one point that he would not risk breaking up his government with no expectation of progress towards peace.

The Israeli government has been struggling for several years without being able to solve the issue of Tabah with Egypt, a relatively minor problem.

Uri Avnery, co-chairman of the Progressive List for Peace says that the Tabah affair "exposed the bankruptcy of this government."

"It has no intention of making peace. How can it? What can you do when you have everything from

the Communists to the fascists in Israel?"

Mr. Avnery, who is also editor of Haolam Hazeh, a tabloid Hebrew weekly magazine, says that what is happening in the Israeli government "is more than paralysis." He describes U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East as a "charade that reflects the naivete of U.S. policy in the region."

The hawks in the "national unity" government such as Yitzhak Shamir and Ariel Sharon, are on the ascendancy, he says. "Israel is making war not seeking peace and is tightening her control over the occupied territories. Both acts are guarantees that discovering the path to peace will not be made easier."

The writer is on the staff of the Jordan Times. He is currently in the U.S. working on a scholarship by the Alfred Friendly Foundation.

Angels on pinheads

WHAT IS holding up the Middle East "peace process?"

The real reasons are certainly not the procedural formulas, definitions or trivialities that we have been hearing about all summer: will the next conference follow immediately on the first? Is being on the Palestine National Council the same as being a member of the PLO? How many angels are there on the head of a pin?

There are a number of really important reasons. Try this one on for size:

Israel is continuing to refuse to negotiate with the organisation that represents the other side. It prefers, instead, to find friendly straw men, who represent almost no one but themselves, to make a deal with on the future of the West Bank and Gaza.

We wonder how much longer the Americans would have gone on fighting in Vietnam if they had decided to try to settle the war by dealing with their own supporters in Saigon rather than with the Viet Cong.

Many Israelis, including elder statesman Abba Eban, have said that the PLO is the enemy and that Israel should negotiate with it, like it or not. But the Israeli government won't listen: probably because it doesn't really want to negotiate with anyone. But that's another story.

Meanwhile, the U.S. won't deal with the PLO either, even though it would be in the U.S. interest to do so. The U.S. reason is that Secretary Kissinger promised Israel 11 years ago that it would not "recognise or negotiate with" the PLO. But this commitment was not a treaty and not binding on future administrations. It also did not say that the U.S. could not "talk" to the PLO — a loophole that was deliberate, not accidental.

So if the U.S. could summon up the courage to talk with the PLO, and Israel could find wisdom to negotiate with a Jordanian-PLO team, it really wouldn't matter how many angels are on that pinhead — Focus, the newsletter of the National Association of Arab Americans.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jeddah meeting welcomed

THE MEETING between the prime ministers of Jordan and Syria which started in Jeddah Monday opens the door for meaningful cooperation between the two countries and closes the door in the face of plots and conspiracies hatched against them by the enemies of the Arab nation.

We have welcomed this meeting that followed mediation efforts by an Arab League committee, because we cannot accept things to remain as they are now and cannot condone any estrangement among brothers.

The current situation in our region and the external threats to our nation do not tolerate any more disputes among the two countries or the continuation of differences. We are sure that the leaders in Amman and Damascus are keen on preserving unity of ranks among Arabs in the face of their common enemies.

If they have different ways and methods of approaching issues that does not mean they can sacrifice their principles and common objectives. Both capitals are aware that the Arab masses want them to unify their efforts and serve the higher Arab interests.

We sincerely hope that the Jeddah meeting will mark the beginning of real solidarity and real mobilisation of Arab efforts in the face of the Zionist enemy and all enemies, hostile to our nation.

Al Dustour: Jordan is for solidarity

PERHAPS ARAB solidarity has always been one of Jordan's basic objectives because Jordan believes in common Arab action in the face of external threats. The more these challenges and threats became the more Jordan grew confident in the usefulness of common action which proved its effectiveness in all confrontations with the enemy especially in the 1973 war.

Today, Jordan is exposed to new threats from Israel and conspiracies are being hatched against it from all sides and in this situation Jordan feels the Arab nations should be more united than ever so that it can thwart enemies' plots and repel aggression.

For this reason Jordan welcomed the outcome of the Arab Casablanca summit and supported the work of the Arab League mediation efforts designed to end inter-Arab differences. Jordan has welcomed a meeting with Syria to look into ways of ending their differences and serve higher Arab interests.

Jordan has all along adhered to its principles of supporting joint action and Arab solidarity. Jordan's principles and firm stands have won its credibility in the Arab World, and is now helping to mobilise the Arab World's efforts for the common cause.

Sawt Al Shaab: Aid for Sudan

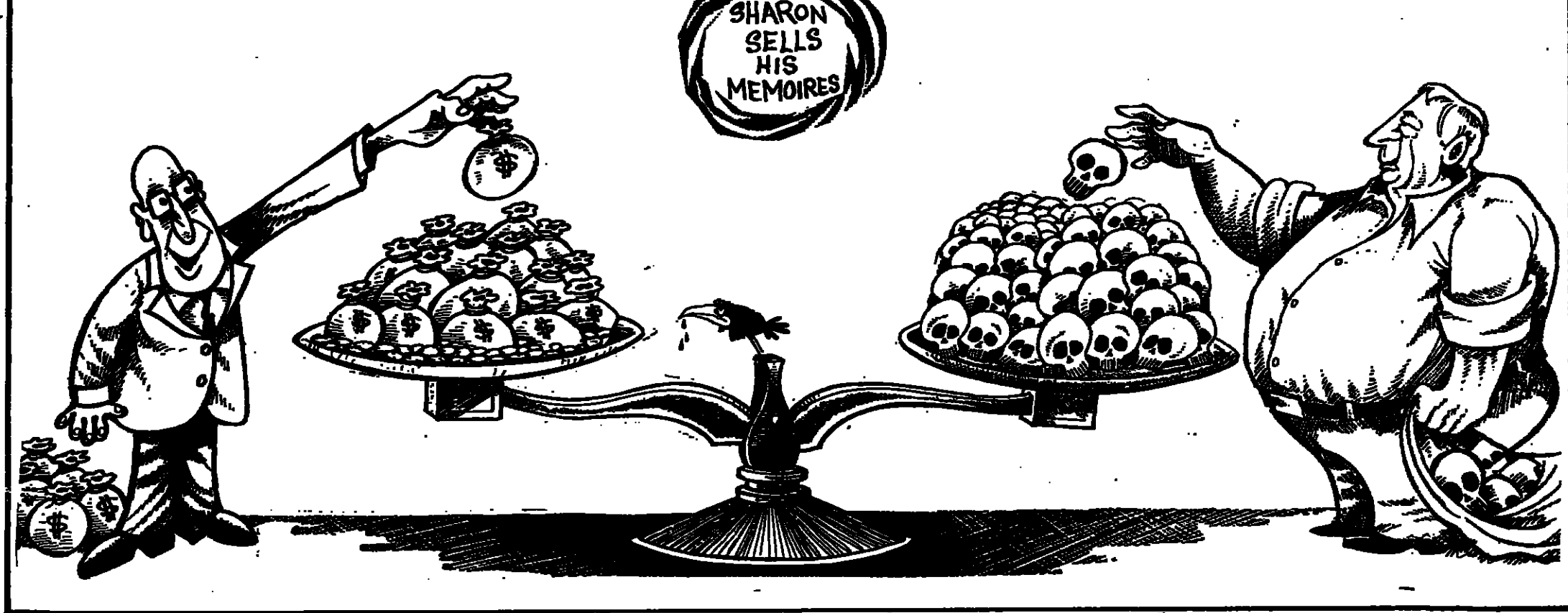
PRINCE HASSAN'S appeal to the Arab and Muslim worlds to extend help to the Sudanese people places Arab leaders face to face with one of their national responsibilities. The appeal in fact seeks to move the conscience of every member of the Arab and Islamic community to come to the aid of their brothers now facing starvation in Sudan.

In his appeal on television, Prince Hassan painted a grim picture of the miserable life the Sudanese refugees have been living in their camps for the past years and underlined the dire need to extend whatever possible help available to these wretched brothers suffering from famine, disease and deprivation.

Prince Hassan pointed out that only Western relief agencies and no Arab institutions were extending assistance to the Sudanese refugees whose majority are Muslims, and urged all voluntary societies and governments to help Sudan overcome this human disaster.

Prince Hassan who saw the misery and was briefed on the needs of the refugees asked other Arab countries to follow the example of Jordan which has embarked on an aid programme to Sudan.

Third anniversary of Sabra and Shatila massacre



U.N. 40th session rallies world leaders

By Anthony Goodman

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations, often the target of jokes that it is just a talking shop, put on a festive air on Tuesday when it opened its 40th anniversary general assembly session that will attract a galaxy of world leaders.

More than 80 heads of state or government have so far indicated their intention to attend the landmark celebrations, although no definitive list of names has yet been issued.

Some of the leaders, including a number of Latin American presidents, will speak during the 159-member assembly's general debate beginning on September 23 and lasting about three weeks.

But most are expected to deliver their speeches during a special commemorative period starting on October 14 and culminating on October 24 — the anniversary of the date in 1945 when the United Nations charter came into force and which is observed annually as United Nations Day.

Some U.N. officials had hoped the anniversary session would serve as the backdrop for an East-West summit, with President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meeting for the first time, on the periphery of the assembly.

But the U.N. was deprived of this icing on its birthday cake by the announcement that the two leaders would confer in Geneva instead on November 19 and 20.

Nonetheless the U.N. complex has been given a facelift, with squads of painters, carpet-layers and window-cleaners ensuring everything is shipshape. Greeting the visitors against this new backdrop will be Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the courtly Peruvian who has headed the secretariat since 1982.

Along with other officials, Perez de Cuellar hopes the gathering of top leaders may help dispel the cynicism with which many private citizens and governments around the world regard the United Nations.

U.N. officials have cited in the body's defence a study of post-war incidents and crises by Harvard professor Louis Sohn which found that in about half the cases "the U.N. has been able to solve problems or prevent serious outbreaks."

The assembly's general debate is expected to mark the U.N. debut of Moscow's new foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, whose predecessor, Andrei Gromyko, recently elevated to the

post of Soviet president, was a fixture at U.N. sessions.

Although the 76-year-old Gromyko is one of about half a dozen surviving signatories of the U.N. charter in San Francisco on June 26, 1945, there has been no suggestion he will attend the anniversary observances.

President Reagan will speak for the United States, which acts as host to the world organisation, on October 23 or 24.

While tentative speaking positions have been reserved for French President Francois Mitterrand and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, both countries' diplomats say they are undecided about attending.

However Libya's U.N. mission has confirmed that its leader Muammar Qadhafi will be coming, while Poland's Wojciech Jaruzelski and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the current chairman of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement, will both make their U.N. debut.

The anniversary celebrations, including rounds of speechmaking, receptions, lunches and dinners, are being grafted onto a regular assembly that will take 13 weeks to plough through an agenda of more than 140 items.

Some of the issues are hardy perennials that have confronted the organisation, almost since its birth. Many of the main actors in the Middle East dispute are coming to the assembly, although there is no sign the session will help advance the search for peace.

His Majesty King Hussein addresses the assembly on September 27, while Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres will speak on October 21 during the anniversary observances. Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak will also speak sometime during the latter period.

The Soviet Union, pressing its campaign against the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative — Washington's so-called "Star Wars" anti-missile project — has already announced it intends to get the issue of space weapons added to the agenda.

Developing nations are expected to focus heavily on the crushing debt problem that burdens the economies of some of the world's poorest countries.

But while delegates' eyes glaze over under the torrent of public speechmaking, much of the serious business of the session will be conducted in secluded U.N. lounges and in the hotel rooms, restaurants and diplomatic missions of New York.

Spate of killings worries Palestinians in Lebanon

By Alistair Lyon

AIN AL HILWEH, South Lebanon (R) — Dozens of armed men guarded the shabby school where worried commando chiefs loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat discussed recent killings in this South Lebanon refugee camp.

Guns have killed four officials of Mr. Arafat's Fateh group and seriously wounded another in the last six weeks, provoking fears of factional fighting among the 40,000 Palestinians who live in the sprawling Ain Al Hilweh camp near the port of Sidon.

Its dusty streets assume an eerie silence by late afternoon. Young Fateh fighters poke guns anxiously from jeep windows as they hustle their commanders in convoy across the camp.

Fateh officials blame the killings on PLO dissidents led by Abu Musa (Mohammed Saeed Musa) and allied with other

Syrian-based groups in the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF).

"It seems the Salvation Front has new orders to make trouble in the camps," Abu Mahmoud, Fateh commander for the south, told Reuters at the school. "This is unacceptable to our people."

PNSF Commander Abu Mujahid attributed the murders to "a power struggle that erupts from time to time within Fateh."

All factions expressed determination to prevent any fighting between Arafat supporters and opponents in Ain Al Hilweh.

They said Palestinian civilians suffered enough during Israel's 1982 invasion when the camp was virtually flattened. Falangist gunners pounded it last spring after Israeli troops withdrew from Sidon in February.

The Palestinians admitted acquiring new arms after the Israelis left, adding they had links with some of the militias now in control of the mainly Sunni Muslim port.

Tension rose in Ain Al Hilweh after the Shiite Muslim Amal militia attacked Beirut refugee camps in May to prevent what they said was a bid by Mr. Arafat to rebuild his former power base.

The five-week siege ended with a Syrian-sponsored accord which formally put the PNSF in control of the Beirut camps, in coordination with Amal and a Druze militia.

Intensive contacts between Palestinians and Sidon leaders helped confine the camp war to Beirut, but mutual suspicion lingered. In July, Sidon leaders demanded the departure of four senior Fateh officials who had returned to the South.

The four included Abu Mahmoud and Hussein Haybi, who was wounded in Ain Al Hilweh recently. The attack came two days after gunmen shot dead Mustafa Khalifeh, a senior Arafat aide.

Ain Al Hilweh residents turned

out in their thousands for Khalifeh's funeral, chanting pro-Arafat slogans and waving pictures of the PLO leader in a big demonstration of support. Pro-Syrian factions left the funeral in protest.

Abu Mujahid said the PNSF planned to form a 130-man strike force, effectively excluding Fateh, to control security in Ain Al Hilweh and the small Miyeh Miyeh Camp nearby.

But Fateh's Abu Mahmoud said this was unworkable. "The PNSF can't create an independent security force isolated from Fateh and other groups. They represent one per cent of Ain Al Hilweh in popularity and two or three per cent in military terms."

He said Fateh would not retaliate for the attacks on its leaders. "The Palestinians have had enough trouble, enough anguish. So we are being patient, holding our nerves. If we started reacting, we would be playing their game."

New president brings hope to Peru

By Monte Hayes

LIMA, Peru — Residents of this capital keep a close watch these days on a small, second-floor balcony of the government palace.

That's where Peru's new president, Alan Garcia, is likely to appear without announcement to proclaim measures that touch Peruvians' daily lives.

Since taking office July 28, Garcia's populist style of governing, his youth and his energy-charged first weeks in office have revived a sense of hope in Peru, a nation beset by economic collapse, social decay and terrorism.

The 6-foot-3 (187) Garcia, 36, has attacked the country's 200-per cent-a-year inflation and its \$14-billion foreign debt. He has also attacked excess government and military spending, corruption, drug trafficking and guerrilla violence.

Many Peruvians had come to see these problems as hopeless.

But Garcia has moved swiftly to fill the vacuum of leadership that cities say was one of the greatest marks against his predecessor, 72-year-old Fernando Belaunde Terry, head of the centre-right Popular Action Party.

In a cover story entitled "30 Days of Strength," the independent news magazine Caretas commented, "It is difficult to find

a parallel to what has happened here in the last 30 days."

Garcia is a leader who leads," Caretas columnist Manuel d'Ornelas wrote in the same issue. "New winds are blowing through the country. No one or almost no one opposes them. It is a welcome change in the atmosphere, just as when winter ends and there is the first hint of summer."

We must have faith in the new president, May God lead his way so that he can bring Peru out of the depths," said Mrs. Luisida Anzola, a widow with two small children.

She spoke in a crowded aisle of Lima's central market as other housewives and vegetable vendors impromptu support for her view.

But the problems are enormous: Per-capita income stands at 1965 levels, industry is working at 50 per cent capacity, two of every three workers are without steady jobs and the war against leftist guerrillas has cost at least 5,000 lives since 1980.

"Garcia certainly has raised a lot of hope, which we don't think he can fulfill," said Hernando de Soto, head of the Institute for Freedom and Democracy, a privately funded study centre. But he said he supported the president's beginning efforts.

A favourite target during his "balconazo" — a word coined for his balcony appearances — has been the privileges of government

bureaucrats. From the balcony on Aug. 22, he announced a ceiling of \$1,080 in monthly salaries for government officials.

He also announced he was paring two of every three managers from the payroll of state companies, and selling the residences of Peruvian ambassadors to Washington and the United Nations, saying Peru's ambassadors must learn to live by the standards of a poor country.

Garcia's security guards, fearful of a terrorist attack, tried to restrain him the first time he decided to have an informal meeting with the public, but the burly president pushed them aside, an aide said.

He usually unbuckles his coat and opens it to show the crowd he is not wearing a bullet-proof vest.

During one of his recent "balconazos," a frail, elderly woman in a patched dress shouted, "don't come out, my son. They're going to kill you."

Garcia, the social democrat leader of the Aprista Party, has concentrated on providing immediate assistance to the country's poor. He has imposed price controls and set a ceiling of 10 per cent of Peru's export earnings for servicing the foreign debt, saying the remainder is needed to help Peru's poor and to reactivate the economy.



Alan Garcia

He has fired or forcibly retired 163 police generals and colonels as part of his campaign to root out corruption from the police forces and formed a peace commission to seek a dialogue with extreme-left rebels. The fanatical Maoist-oriented guerrilla group has refused.

In what may prove to be his toughest campaigns he has launched a war against the cocaine barons who export at least \$500 million a year in drugs.

Garcia has not only won popular support but also has raised the hopes of the business community. He announced recently that he would propose tax breaks for companies, and the manager of a textile plant, who asked to remain anonymous, said industrialists are talking for the first time in months of investing again.

Margaret Thatcher: Britain's formidable leader

By Valerie Elliot

During her six years in office, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain has brought a formidable style of leadership to her country's domestic politics and established for herself a special place among the world's statesmen.

No one can fail to be struck by her achievements both at home and abroad, even her political opponents concede that she is an extraordinary woman, although some might add that she has also been blessed with much good luck.

She has proved her mettle many times over. It is particularly significant that not only did she win the general election of 1979 but she was re-elected in 1983 with a greater parliamentary majority and any doubts the old party diehards might have had ten years earlier, when Mrs. Thatcher first became leader of the Conservatives, were laid to rest — "Maggie" had won the country and returned her party to power for a second term.

Many of the prime minister's achievements have stemmed from her inherent political instincts, her gut reactions, her unswerving conviction in her beliefs, her powerful drive to unleash a different set of attitudes on society, and her determination to promote the ethos of work and self-help.

Control of inflation

Her main task on assuming office was to reverse the long term decline in Britain's economy. This drive to bring down inflation by monetary control has been at the core of her policies and her government has achieved substantial success in this area. By 1984 inflation was down to some 5 per cent, the lowest rate in 15 years.

To Mrs. Thatcher's disappointment, the figure has crept up to about 7 per cent in recent months, but her ministers believe it will fall again by the end of 1985.

Her rigid monetary control has been strongly criticised by some who blame it for the sharp rise in Britain's unemployment level, with those out of work numbering some 3.3 million at the last count. Calls for economic expansion have met with little sympathy from the prime minister, she insists that inflation will not solve the long term problem of unemployment, which has been exacerbated in recent years by the enormous strides in new technology taking over traditional manufacturing processes.

Instead, she has concentrated on the need for job creation by encouraging enterprise, has helped budding entrepreneurs to set up their own businesses and has increased youth training and adult retraining in new technological

skills. She has set Britain a challenge to help itself back to work by creating the climate to succeed. This strategy she believes to be the correct one, but at the same time she wishes its result could be speeded up to reduce the numbers of jobless.

Taxes cut

Coupled with the government's curb on inflation have been strenuous efforts to control public expenditure, to improve the climate for investment, and to boost exports and productivity. Mrs. Thatcher has also cut the taxes levied on personal incomes, although not to the extent her supporters had hoped.

She is a firm believer that everyone should have the right to choose how to spend his or her earnings and that therefore less should be paid directly to the state. As well as reducing the basic rate of income tax from 33 per cent to 30 per cent and the top rate from 83 per cent to 60 per cent, she has raised the threshold of 'tax-free' personal allowances on earned income.

Another important measure has been the privatisation of former nationalised industries, with priority for shares going to the first time small investor. The over-subscription in 1984 for shares in British Telecom, the country's tel-

ephone and telecommunications network, proved without doubt the popularity of this policy. And the recent tenfold over-subscription to the Britoil shares offer underlined the point.

Just as she had encouraged many people to become shareholders for the first time, Mrs. Thatcher has laid great stress on creating a property owning nation. During her time in office, large numbers of people in Britain have been able to buy their own homes after years of being tenants in accommodation owned by local authorities.

Many have eagerly seized their opportunity to become home owners and have been offered favourable loans, mortgages and repayment schemes. Since May 1979, some 600,000 houses and apartments previously owned by local authorities have been sold.

Industrial stoppages reduced

Mrs. Thatcher's reforms of Trade Union Law have been bitterly attacked but have also won her support. During her first administration there were fewer industrial stoppages than in any other period since 1950, and in March 1985 her government won a substantial test of strength following the collapse of the year long coal miners strike.

Mrs. Thatcher's image overseas

gained its full stature during 1982 and in her handling of the Falkland Islands conflict. In her immediate reaction to the Argentine invasion of the Islands, her government showed its resolve that aggression must not be allowed to succeed and that International Law must be respected and upheld. Its stance was endorsed by statesmen throughout the world.

The prime minister's personal courage and determination had earlier been witnessed by Britain's partners in the European Community, in her dealings there since 1979 she has not failed in battling for Britain. Her opponents may have been swift to label her single minded approach as obstinacy and to denounce her convictions as autocratic, but it does appear that Mrs. Thatcher has improved Britain's position inside the community.

International relations

It was Britain that persuaded the Europeans to face up to the need for long term reform of the Community budget and, while negotiations are still under way, Mrs. Thatcher's government has succeeded in protecting her country from excessive budgetary contributions by obtaining an agreement to a series of refunds. She has also taken the lead in pressing

for a more open European market.

She has featured too in developing East-West relations and she was the first Western leader to hold talks with Mikhail Gorbachev when he took office at the head of the Soviet government, and announced, "I like him. We can do business together".

While strengthening Britain's defences, her government has attached great importance to achieving a balanced and verifiable reduction in armaments to enhance peace and security. The administration has played an active part in preparing Western proposals for reductions in nuclear and conventional forces, and has played a key role in persuading the Soviet Union to resume talks with the United States on reducing both strategic and intermediate range nuclear weapons.

Mrs. Thatcher has achieved too a significant coup in her negotiations with China to ensure the continuing stability and prosperity of Hong Kong after Britain's lease expires in 1997.

This list of achievements is by no means exhaustive, but Margaret Thatcher has two or three years to go before she has to call another general election. So far, all the indications are that she will press ahead with her existing policies both at home and overseas — Daily Telegraph, London.



Mrs. Margaret Thatcher

Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, Conservative Member of Parliament for Barnet, Finchley, was appointed Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service on May 4, 1979, following the success of the Conservative Party in the general election of the previous day. When the Conservative Party subsequently won the general election on 9 June 1983 Mrs. Thatcher became the first Conservative Prime Minister this century to be elected to serve consecutive terms. She is Britain's first woman Prime Minister.

Margaret Hilda Thatcher was born on 13 October 1925, the daughter of a grocer who was active in local politics as borough councillor, alderman and mayor of Grantham. She went from elementary school to Kesteven and Grantham Girls' High School, won a bursary to Somerville College, Oxford, and obtained a degree in Natural Science (B.Sc.). She is also a Master of Arts (M.A.) of Oxford University. In June 1983 she was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS).

On leaving Oxford she worked for four years as a research chemist to an industrial firm, reading for the Bar in her spare time. She was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn in 1954, and practised as a barrister, specialising in taxation law.

While an undergraduate she was President of the Oxford University Conservative Association. As Miss Margaret Roberts she contested two parliamentary elections for the Conservative Party, in 1950 and 1951, before being elected (after her marriage) to the House of Commons in 1959 as Member for Finchley. She represented Finchley until the constituency boundary changes of 1974 since when she has sat for Barnet, Finchley.

Mrs. Thatcher's first ministerial appointment came in 1961, when she became a Parliamentary Secretary to the then Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, remaining in this position until the change of government in 1964. From 1964 to 1970, while the Conservatives were in opposition, she was a front-bench spokesman for her party in the House of Commons, and from 1967 a member of the Shadow Cabinet, being concerned during this period with a very wide range of subjects, including social security, housing and land, treasury matters, fuel and power, transport and education. When the Conservatives returned to office in June 1970, she was appointed Secretary of State for Education and Science and was made a Privy Counsellor. After the general election of February 1974 she was appointed to the Shadow Cabinet and became opposition front-bench spokesman, first on the environment and later (in December 1974) on treasury matters. She was elected leader of the Conservative Party and thus leader of the opposition in February 1975.



Mr. Denis Thatcher

Mr. Denis Thatcher was born in 1915 and educated at Mill Hill School in London. Later he studied industrial administration, and cost and works accounting, besides working in junior grades in this field.

In 1938 he was commissioned in the Territorial Army and during the war saw service in Britain, Sicily, Italy and France as a Staff Major. He was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (Military) and mentioned in despatches. He was demobilised in the rank of Major in April 1946. He holds the Territorial Decoration (TD).

He joined the Atlas Preservation Company, chemical and paint manufacturers (partially the family firm), as junior general manager and over the years was promoted to joint general manager, managing director, and ultimately chairman.

In 1965 Atlas was taken over by Castrol (the world's leading independent lubricating oil company) and Mr. Thatcher became a director of Castrol. In turn Castrol was taken over by the Burmah Oil Company and he then became a divisional director of Burmah Oil Trading and subsequently director of planning and control. He travelled widely on export promotion and other duties for Burmah Oil, retiring from Burmah Oil in 1975.

In 1951 he married Miss Margaret Roberts (now the prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, MP) and they have a twin son and daughter. His hobbies include golf, sailing, and reading history. Mr. Thatcher has also been a leading rugby football referee.

A day in the life of the British Prime Minister

By Jack Ensoll
London Press Service

RADIO FOUR, the BBC's domestic news and current affairs channel, begins to broadcast just before 0600 hours. During the first 35 minutes there is a strong agricultural content, a shipping forecast and news about the weather, presumably on the grounds that only mariners and farmers are alert at that unsocial hour. Then there are world news bulletins and items of topical interest.

One of the listeners is almost invariably Britain's Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, who wakes up at about 0600 and immediately switches on the radio to find out what has been happening in the world overnight. She continues to listen until about 0715, when she turns out of bed at her official London residence, 10 Downing Street.

The weekday timetable has begun and there is little change at the weekend when the prime minister and her family stay at their official country residence, Chequers in Buckinghamshire, west of the capital. In London, Mrs. Thatcher loses little time in bustling into an invariably busy day, pausing only for breakfast which consists of a vitamin C tablet and a glass of sparkling water. Occasionally she might prepare a meal for her husband Denis — probably toast, marmalade and coffee.

Not a minute wasted

By 0830 she is in her office and

after that not a minute of the day is wasted until she goes to bed, usually around midnight, although it is not unusual for her to go on working until one or two in the morning.

Her stamina is legendary and she needs very little sleep — according to some accounts between two and four hours a night. Certainly there have been occasions when she has been in the House of Commons to vote in all night debates and has been known to doze in her office chair at Westminster for about an hour, and then appear the following day, fresh and sparkling, for the ordeal of prime minister's questions.

In an interview she said: "I'm doing the one job in the world which I really want to do. Which I love. Hard work to me is a pleasure."

One of Mrs. Thatcher's first tasks is to read through a digest of the morning's newspapers prepared for her by the chief press secretary, Bernard Ingham. She is not herself a dedicated reader of the press and has from time to time deflected Fleet Street by stating that she does not read editorial comment about herself.

Day to day discussions

Most of her ministers she meets at Downing Street or in the Commons on a day to day basis for discussions on government policies and how to put these into effect. During the week she will also chair one or more meetings of

ministers on specific subjects, and usually on Thursday she meets the full cabinet.

On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons she attends prime minister's question time in the House of Commons, when Members of Parliament (MPs) quiz her for 15 minutes on government policy generally, her actions and decisions. Mrs. Thatcher has confessed that the few minutes before question time begins are her most nervous moments as prime minister, especially as, by tradition, she is expected to speak without notes.

Political observers, however, can vouch for the fact that she rarely comes off second best in oratorical encounters that are often noisy and are robust. In a predominantly masculine environment she can deploy a swift, sharp feminine wit with devastating effect.

In addition, Mrs. Thatcher will often 'make' statements to the House to bring MPs up-to-date on events and the progress of legislation. This is, for instance, regular practice after an overseas summit, a European Council of Heads of Government meeting, or functions such as the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting, the last of which took place in New Delhi. She will also make speeches on these areas of government policy that are her direct — responsibility — for example, the Civil Service or national security.

When she is not getting ready to chair meetings at Downing Street

or taking part in the cut and thrust of parliamentary life, she usually "works on her boxes", going through government papers that are circulated around Whitehall in red despatch boxes. The prime minister also has to read reports and recommendations that other ministers are going to present to the cabinet and keep herself up-to-date on current affairs, both at home and abroad. Letters from the public, MPs and ministers all have to be answered as well. It is estimated that some 2500 letters a week are processed.

The Queen

As prime minister, Mrs. Thatcher maintains close contact with Queen Elizabeth II and meets her at Buckingham Palace once a week on average. She is responsible for recommending to the Queen appointments to over 200 offices of the Crown. She recommends too the appointment of Privy Counsellors (advisers to the Queen), senior judges, Lord Lieutenants (the Queen's representatives in each United Kingdom county), and various other holders of civil office, as well as those names that have been proposed for inclusion in the half yearly honours lists.

Running in tandem with her domestic duties is a busy international schedule. She receives heads of state and government at 10 Downing Street for talks, often over working lunches. Addi-

tionally, her schedule includes overseas visits which have to be fitted in with other engagements, and this requires detailed planning.

As well as being prime minister, Mrs. Thatcher is an MP and, as such, has to represent her constituents' interests and deal with their problems. She usually spends at least half a day each week either in the constituency of Barnet and Finchley in the London suburbs, or dealing with constituency business.

Invitations continually flood in for her to attend and speak at conferences, receptions and dinners throughout Britain. Although it is not possible for her to meet all or even most of these requests she makes a point of trying to visit as many parts of the country as possible so that she can judge at first hand what people think about the government and its policies and to explain what she and her colleagues are seeking to achieve.

Tight security

In this respect regular visits are made to the strife torn province of Northern Ireland. Although these journeys are made under conditions of tight security, Mrs. Thatcher makes a point of meeting the ordinary people there and once, as a calculated act of policy, went walk-about in the centre of the capital, Belfast.

Apart from being a head of government and a world statesman,

Mrs. Thatcher is a wife and mother of twins but there is little time for family life. There are moments, however, when she can get together with Denis, daughter Carol who is a journalist, and son Mark. These cherished occasions are usually late at night. "We will just sit down and exchange experiences," she says. "A family just keeps you down to earth. I could not do without one. I would not be without one. It would be very difficult to do my job without one."

Asked in a recent interview how her husband felt about having to take a back seat, Mrs. Thatcher replied: "Oh, but he doesn't. He has his own career, his own life and he is pretty forthright on many things, and that is good. He does a lot of work and helps many charities. He is fond of sport and for him rugby football is an absolute religion."

When the Thatchers have one of their rare get-togethers, after the working day it is unlikely that television will feature in the entertainment. "I never watch myself and the family know it," says the prime minister.

"I am quite often in the news or because I have been doing some kind of talk or interview. And usually I have recorded it in advance and then I go home and the family wants to watch and I just cannot stay in the room. I simply cannot bear watching myself. So I say: 'Well, if I'm going to stay in the room you have got to turn it off.'"

Statement by the British Ambassador on the occasion of the visit of the British Prime Minister to Jordan

AMMAN — The British Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP, has long wished to visit the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and is delighted to do so this week at the invitation of His Majesty King Hussein. Throughout her years as Prime Minister she has followed developments in Jordan with keen interest. She has held frequent meetings in London with His Majesty King Hussein during which the events and problems of the region have been discussed in great detail. She now much looks forward to seeing Jordan at first hand.

The British Government greatly values the friendship and co-operation of Jordan. Britain has long admired both the Kingdom's striking social and economic development over the years and its constructive efforts to solve the problems of the area. The visit by

the British Prime Minister at this time is designed to demonstrate British support and admiration for His Majesty the King and for the government and people of Jordan.

The peace process

Britain continues to play an active role in the search for a comprehensive, lasting and just settlement of the Palestinian problem. The initiative taken by His Majesty the King holds out the best hope of progress towards a negotiated solution of the conflict. The British government was among the first to welcome the Jordanian/Palestinian agreement of 11 February as a positive and constructive step. Mrs. Thatcher told the British House of Commons on 26 February that she believed "the time was propitious for full efforts to arrive at a solution of

the Arab/Israel problem." She expressed her support for the efforts of His Majesty King Hussein to arrive at a common position among moderate Arab Governments. Since then the British Government have worked to increase international support for these efforts.

Relations between Jordan and Britain

Relations between Jordan and Britain are close and strong. The friendship at the top between two Royal families, brilliantly symbolised by the 1984 state visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth to the Hashemite Kingdom, is reflected in the close ties at government level and personal relationship between many individual Jordanians and Britons. Two organisations — the



Ambassador Arthur John Coles

Jordan-British Society in Amman and the Anglo-Jordanian Society in London — run active programmes designed to foster co-operation between the two countries. Both societies are honoured by the patronage of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince.

Cultural relations flourish. In Jordan the British Council run a full programme of activities, including a substantial and important English-language teaching programme. The performance of Swan Lake by the London City Ballet at this year's Jerash Festival was acknowledged to have been very successful. Further cultural events of comparable quality are planned. Meanwhile, there are currently over 700 students from Jordan in Britain on a large variety of courses.

Britain continues to take an active interest in Jordan's economic and social development. An £8 million loan was made available in 1982 and is currently being used for important projects in the fields of electricity, vocational training and university education. In addition, under a British technical assistance programme, a substantial number of British experts are

working in various sectors of the Jordanian economy. The British government is currently following with interest the preparation of Jordan's next Five Year Plan.

Meanwhile, trade relations between the two countries continue to be strong despite the economic recession in the area. British firms have played, and continue to play today, an important role in major construction projects in Jordan. They also supply a wide range of defence equipment to the Jordan Armed Forces with whom the British Armed Forces have traditionally enjoyed a close and friendly relationship.

During her visit to Jordan the Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher will seek to build on this sound foundation and to chart a path for continued co-operation and friendship between Britain and Jordan to the benefit and enrichment of both our countries.

Thatcher underlines PLO role

(Continued from page 1)

moving forward." "You will never be able to recognise who is PLO and who is not PLO. So let's be realistic," Mr. Muharak said.

Mrs. Thatcher's visit is the first to Cairo by a British prime minister since Winston Churchill came here in World War II.

Mrs. Thatcher described relations between the two countries as very good. She said she and Mr. Muharak discussed the forthcoming summit between U.S. President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and said she would be "very surprised indeed" if their talks did not include discussion of the Middle East.

She later had talks with Egypt's new prime minister, Ali Lutfi, and

was also meeting Defence Minister Field-Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala.

Britain is Egypt's fourth largest aid donor. Mrs. Thatcher on Wednesday will lay the foundation stone of the world's largest waste water project, designed and partly financed by Britain, to modernise Cairo's 70-year-old sewerage system.

Egypt's semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram reported that Mr. Muharak would follow up his talks with Mrs. Thatcher with contacts with other West European leaders.

It said he would leave for Portugal on Thursday, followed by a visit to Spain to meet King Juan Carlos before going to Washington for talks with President Reagan on Sept. 23.

PLO calls on Britain to launch efforts to reactivate peace process

(Continued from page 1)

The ball is still in the American court," Mr. Ahmad told the Jordan Times, "but we believe that Britain is the single most important European country that could exert real influence on the American administration."

Mr. Ahmad said it was high time for Britain to assume "its historical responsibility towards the Palestinian people since it contributed to the creation of the state of Israel in Palestine."

He was referring to a promise made to the Zionists by then British foreign minister, Lord Balfour, in 1917, that Britain, which had a mandate on Palestine then, would help create a Jewish state in Palestine.

Mr. Ahmad summed up a more active British role in the peace process, as envisaged by the PLO, to include launching efforts towards a unified European position to influence the American stand, accepting to receive a joint Jordanian-PLO delegation in London and expressing support for an international peace conference under the auspices of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

Britain's most notable "active involvement" in the search for peace in the Middle East was in 1967 when it contributed to the formulation of U.N. Resolution 242 which calls for exchanging Israeli-occupied Arab territories for peace.

The U.S. has repeatedly linked

its readiness to recognise the PLO with the organisation's acceptance of Resolution 242. But the PLO refuses to accept the resolution on its own.

"We cannot possibly accept U.N. Resolution 242 on its own because it refers to the Palestinians as refugees and denies them their right to self-determination," Mr. Ahmad said. But the PLO official said Britain could help everybody overcome the impasse over 242 by formulating, in its capacity as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, "a new resolution which recognises the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination."

Mr. Ahmad indicated that an amendment of 242 might not be

feasible but that what is needed is a new resolution which "includes all the necessary elements for a just and durable solution for the Palestinian question."

The British government avoids top-level official contacts with the PLO and does not recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, although Mrs. Thatcher has indicated that there should be a role to the PLO in the peace process.

But in an interview with the semi-official Egyptian newspaper last week, Mrs. Thatcher urged the PLO to "abandon terrorism" and said that this was a precondition for direct Middle East talks.

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S. Africa continues raid into Angola amid U.S. criticism

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa, condemned world-wide over its apartheid policies, Tuesday faced American criticism of a military thrust into Angola in pursuit of black Namibian (South West African) guerrillas.

The South African Defence Force (SADF) Tuesday confirmed that the push against South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrillas was continuing, but declined further details.

Pretoria said Monday that its forces and those of the South African-led Namibian army backed by air force helicopters had crossed into Angola in pursuit of the guerrillas, whom it accused of planning a campaign of terror.

The U.S. State Department said Monday night that it opposed South African military raids into Angola in pursuit of SWAPO guerrillas who have waged a bush war against Pretoria's control of Namibia for 20 years.

SADF Chief of Staff General Ian Gleeson, in the only amplification of the official statement on the raid, said Monday night: "Hopefully, the operation will be over in a week."

Washington's latest criticism of South Africa was made as Pretoria's isolation increased over its

race segregation policies. The United States and most members of the European Community have imposed limited economic sanctions over apartheid.

The SADF said the Namibian guerrillas had planned to bombard military bases in Namibia, to attack soft targets in the north of the territory and raid larger towns and residential areas.

Pretoria rules Namibia in defiance of the United Nations. South Africa invaded Angola in an operation against SWAPO bases in 1983 and only announced the final withdrawal of its battle troops on June 3 this year.

Most troops had already been withdrawn under an agreement last year with Angola which pledged to keep southern Angola free of SWAPO fighters. South Africa has repeatedly said the government in Luanda could or would not keep the bargain.

On South Africa's eastern border, Mozambique President Samora Machel Monday met Foreign Minister Pik Botha to protest against

violations of the Nkomati peace accord which the two countries signed last year. The Mozambique News Agency reported.

Mr. Machel was expected to arrive Tuesday for talks which Washington hopes will consolidate his move away from the Soviet Union.

Mr. Machel, on his first official visit to the United States, will meet President Reagan and top officials in an intensive programme that reflects the significance Washington attaches to the visit.

Over the last three years relations between the two countries have warmed considerably as Mr. Machel has moved away from rigid Marxist policies to more pragmatic ones in a bid to repair the country's ravaged economy.

"Machel is an extremely cautious man and he's not going to kick out the Soviet Union, but he's saying they haven't done the job and it's time to widen our horizons," a U.S. official told Reuters.

He and other officials, who asked not to be identified, said Washington was keen to encourage that process and hoped the visit would prove to congressional critics the administration's view

that "Machel is a man prepared to change."

They said a crucial aspect of the visit would be Mr. Machel's meetings with senators and congressmen who earlier this year vetoed \$1.1 billion in military aid while approving \$15 million in economic assistance.

The Mozambique economy has been devastated over the last few years by drought, compounded by collectivized agricultural policies that sharply reduced production and by a sapping campaign against right-wing guerrillas.

The officials said Washington had noted with great approval Mr. Machel's dismissal of East European agricultural experts and a new policy of emphasizing the private sector that started in May this year with sharply higher prices paid to farmers.

Mr. Machel first won serious U.S. approval in April 1984 when he signed the Nkomati Accords with South Africa under which Mozambique expelled members of the African National Congress, the major guerrilla force fighting the minority white Pretoria government.

In return, South Africa promised to halt support for the rightist Mozambique National Resistance (MNR or Renamo) rebels.

CITY HALL ON FIRE: The City Hall in Aqua Prieta, Mexico, burns after being set on fire by supporters of the Partido Accion Nacional (PAN) Monday afternoon. The action was to protest the first day in office of the new mayor who beat their candidate in the Mexican elections held earlier this year (AP wirephoto)

'New group' behind Duarte kidnap

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Salvadoran government sources said Tuesday the kidnapped daughter of President Jose Napoleon Duarte was being held by a previously unheard of rebel group.

Senior military and political sources said the group — which contacted the government at least twice to say it was holding Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran — called itself the Pedro Pablo Castillo Front.

The sources said the government believed the group because during one contact a voice

thought to be that of Mrs. Duarte Duran gave a message to a government official.

They said they did not know if the voice were live or recorded and provided no details of the message.

Mrs. Duarte Duran, 35, and a companion were abducted in front of a university in the capital a week ago Tuesday.

Pedro Pablo Castillo was a Salvadoran independence hero who led the first Central American insurrection against Spain in 1811. Independence Day for El Sal-

vador was Sunday. The Pedro Pablo Castillo Front is the name given to what the rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) call a Fifth Front of the country's bloody six-year-old civil war — captured guerrillas in the country's prisons.

It was formally named the Pedro Pablo Castillo Front in a July 15 rebel radio broadcast.

On Monday sources close to the government said a "violent" rebel group belonging to the FMLN was behind the abduction.

Bonn denies latest defector knew SDI secrets

BONN (R) — West Germany announced on Tuesday that a secretary in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's office had defected and was suspected of being a communist spy.

But government sources retracted earlier statements that Hertha Astrid Willner, 45, had had access to details of President Reagan's "Star Wars" space defence research project. They said they had now established that the strategic defence initiative (SDI) papers had not passed through Ms. Willner's hands.

Dr. Kohl's spokesman Friedrich Helmut Ost announced on Tuesday that Ms. Willner and her husband Herbert Adolf had defected to East Berlin and that investigations on suspicion of espionage had been opened against both.

A spokesman for the chancellery officially denied the secretary had seen SDI material but acknowledged she could have had

access to secret information on "Eureka", the European high-technology drive, and West Germany's nuclear programme.

The sources said it had initially been assumed SDI material would automatically have been among documents she handled, but chancellery staff had now established it went through another channel straight to Horst Teltschik, Dr. Kohl's security adviser.

Ost said in his statement that Ms. Willner had worked in the chancellery's office since 1973 after transferring from the Defence Ministry and had been in the same department for the past 12 years.

The prosecutor's office said on Tuesday it had opened investigations on suspicion of spying against Ms. Willner and her husband after both had sent letters to the West saying they were in East Berlin.

Herbert, 59, had worked as a senior officer in the Friedrich Naumann Institute, a research

organisation close to the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP) who have participated in all Bonn coalition governments since 1969.

Ost said Hertha-Adolf had been due to return to work on Monday and the chancellery had begun investigations Monday night after receiving a tip from the Naumann Institute that the Willners had disappeared in Spain 10 days ago.

The prosecutor's office had opened formal investigations against the couple on suspicion of espionage Monday night.

Ost said the chancellery had received an express letter from an East Berlin lawyer early on Tuesday which included a written statement from the woman saying she was quitting her job.

Her husband, who had earlier worked at the FDP party headquarters, sent a similar letter to the Naumann Institute in which he said he had defected because he feared arrest on charges of breaching West German security.

Argo locates mysteriously sunken sub

WASHINGTON (AP) — A nuclear-powered U.S. submarine that was lost in the Atlantic 17 years ago was found and photographed last month, navy sources have confirmed.

The sources said the research ship Knorr, operating a new deep-diving submersible named the Argo, located and shot colour video and still photos of the attack submarine Scorpion on Aug. 17.

The unmanned submersible is the same one that photographed the Titanic earlier this month.

The Scorpion sank under mysterious circumstances in 1968 about 643 kilometres south east of the Azores. Although another navy submersible, the Trieste, managed to photograph the Scorpion just one year after it sank, the Argo "was used to blanket the

sub and took a tremendous range of photos," said one source, who agreed to discuss the matter only if not identified.

Navy sources declined to discuss why the Scorpion was singled out for a photo exploration by the Argo, beyond saying the new unmanned submersible is being sea-tested over a variety of sunken craft.

Le Monde: Hernu ordered Greenpeace blast

PARIS (R) — Two French military underwater saboteurs acting on orders from Defence Minister Charles Hernu blew up the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior in New Zealand, the Paris newspaper Le Monde said Tuesday.

Le Monde said its enquiries had established that the two frogmen escaped from New Zealand after the attack on July 10 by air but their names were not known.

The two frogmen, Le Monde said, formed a third team of agents

not mentioned in the report of civil servant Bernard Tricot, who cleared the French secret service of the attack.

Le Monde said the sabotage operation was carried out under direct orders from Mr. Hernu and two senior French officers who subsequently concealed it from President Francois Mitterrand.

It said Mr. Tricot, appointed on President Mitterrand's orders to establish the truth, was given a false version of what happened by the French defence establishment.

Mr. Tricot identified two teams of French agents sent to New Zealand but said neither of them had done more than spy on Greenpeace.

One pair of agents, Dominique Prieur and Alain Maffart, are in prison in New Zealand awaiting trial on charges of sabotaging the Rainbow Warrior and murdering a crew member killed in the attack in Auckland harbour.

The other team, composed of three frogmen, left New Zealand and returned to France.

W. German opposition elects new leader

BONN (R) — Johannes Rau, the most popular politician in West Germany, is to lead the opposition Social Democrats in a bid to unseat Chancellor Helmut Kohl in 1987 general elections.

Mr. Rau, 54, jovial and grey-haired, is prime minister of North Rhine-Westphalia state, where he led Social Democratic Party (SPD) to a state election triumph last May and he has topped the popularity lists in all recent opinion polls.

The SPD's chairman, ex-Chancellor Willy Brandt, announced Monday night that the party leadership had now decided to endorse him as national leader for the 1987 poll. It would put him up for formal approval by a party congress next August, Mr. Brandt said.

Commentators say Mr. Rau is the only senior SPD man with any chance of toppling Mr. Kohl but they add that, even with him in command, prospects of an SPD victory still seem slim.

While the polls show Mr. Rau more popular individually than Mr. Kohl, they also have the SPD as a party trailing Mr. Kohl's coalition of his own Christian Democrats and the Liberal Free Democrats.

The SPD might have some prospect of forming a government with the co-operation or tolerance of the radical Greens Party but Mr. Rau has said he would not enter any pact with them.

Mr. Rau said after Monday night's session of the SPD executive he was ready to assume any national tasks entrusted to him. He had previously refused to commit himself to running in 1987 and party officials said his reluctance reflected efforts to persuade the party to adopt a more moderate course.

Neither he nor Mr. Brandt would say formally that Mr. Rau was now the figurehead but officials said this reflected fears that an announcement would mean a premature start to campaigning.

Soviet offensive against Afghan guerrillas widens

ISLAMABAD (R) — A major Soviet offensive against Afghan guerrillas has widened in eastern Afghanistan and near the capital of Kabul, rebels and Western diplomats said Tuesday.

The Soviet push, the largest so far this year, began last month in an effort to clear out guerrilla strongholds and close rebel supply routes in Pakhtia province on the mountainous border with Pakistan.

According to exiles based in Peshawar, battlefield witnesses said the fighting had spread out over a line about six kilometres long near the rebel-besieged garrison town of Khost.

Around Kabul, Soviet and Afghan forces have begun sweeps through valleys to the north and south to destroy rebel hide-outs used as springboards for attacks on the city, the diplomats said.

Guerrillas in Kabul responded by hitting the Soviet embassy there with rockets seven times in the past week, said the diplomats, quoting reports from the capital. They did not know whether the attacks caused any damage.

The diplomats also reported an unexplained 45-minute firefight inside the grounds of the presidential palace in central Kabul on Sept. 10. They identified automatic rifle and heavy machine gun fire but could give no other details.

The rebels said the Soviet offensive in Pakhtia, thought to have petered out, had actually had spread out in a long line near the village of Lezha, south of Khost.

Soviet troops, who were expected to be reinforced soon from the provincial capital of Gardez, appeared to be aiming for a large but well-defended rebel underground base further south on the Pakistan border, they said.

The diplomats had reports of heavy fighting around Gardez on Sept. 9-11 but had no further details.

Around Kabul, Soviet and Afghan forces had been sweeping through villages in the Shomali Valley to the north and the Paghman mountain resort to the north west, the diplomats said.

Soviet and Afghan helicopters had also made frequent bombing

raids on villages in the Logar Valley, driving civilians from areas used by the rebels for ground or rocket attacks on the capital, they said.

Afghan guerrillas Tuesday ridiculed President Babrak Karmal's statement his country's porous border with Pakistan had been closed to infiltrators.

Mr. Karmal, according to official Kabul Radio, said Monday night "the borders of Afghanistan are closed forever against the enemy like an unbreakable wall." "Maybe he means the border was closed for him — he is the real enemy of Afghanistan," said Masood Khalili, a Jamiat-I-Islami guerrilla group spokesman.

Another guerrilla spokesman, who asked not to be identified, said "we have just sent a few convoys through Teri Mangal and Jaji" in disputed Pakhtia province.

Soviet and Afghan forces have been attacking guerrilla strongholds in eastern Afghanistan for the past three months, trying to break links to rebel camps in Pakistan but rebels say men and supplies still cross the mountainous

frontier. Soviet and Afghan forces launched a major attack last month on Jaji, one of the first Afghan towns on a heavily-used infiltration route through Pakhtia province.

But they were pushed back by a surprisingly large and effective rebel force that came from camps in Pakistan. Mr. Karmal, whose speech ended the two-day tribal assembly or jirga, in Kabul, appealed to the border tribes to resist guerrilla attempts to cross their lands.

He said the jirga, an assemblage of 2,500 pro-government Afghan Pashtun and Baluch tribesmen, and 1,200 dissident Pakistani Pashtuns, had agreed to raise border defence to "a new revolutionary level," but he did not say what this meant.

In his opening speech on Saturday, Mr. Karmal appeared to be reviving a long-standing dispute between Afghanistan and Pakistan over their British-drawn border by calling on Pashtun and Baluch tribes on both sides of the border to unite.

38 hurt in Rome cafe grenade attack

ROME (R) — Thirty-eight people were wounded, three seriously, when attackers hurled two grenades at a cafe crowded with foreign tourists on Rome's fashionable Via Veneto Monday night, police said Tuesday.

One of the devices — described by Italian state radio as Soviet-made F1 fragmentation grenades — exploded among the tables of the popular Cafe De Paris. The other failed to go off.

Hospitals reported that Americans and Argentines were among the wounded, and the radio report said a party of American tourists was at the cafe when the attack took place.

Eyewitnesses variously reported two or three assailants and gave conflicting accounts of whether they arrived on foot, by motorcycle or car, and how they escaped.

There was no immediate claim

of responsibility for the attack. Police detained a man they identified as a Moroccan near the scene, but described this as a routine check.

Doctors said the most seriously injured person was the cafe's Italian chief, who was working as a waiter at the time. A piece of shrapnel severed an artery in his leg. An unidentified American and an Argentine were also hit by metal splinters, doctors said.

One of the injured was identified as Carlos Sersale, a diplomat at the Argentine embassy in Rome.

Some witnesses spoke of gunfire, either from the attackers or from police, at the time of the blast.

"I was standing in front of the cafe," said Gherardo Acquaviva, 51. "I saw a man being chased by a policeman. Then there were some shots and the explosion. The pol-

iceman shouted to us to get away because there was another bomb."

The Via Veneto is usually patrolled by police because of the embassies and airline offices in the area. The American embassy is only about 100 metres from the Cafe De Paris.

Known in the 1950s as the area where Director Federico Fellini shot much of his film "La Dolce Vita", the street is now thronged mainly by tourists, and also attracts drug pushers and prostitutes. Investigators said the attack looked like an act of political terrorism.

If the radio report on the make of the grenades involved is confirmed, they would be the same type as those used in an attack on a Rome synagogue in October 1982, in which a two-year-old boy was killed and 34 other Jews injured.

Thai police arrest former premier as coup suspect

BANGKOK (R) — Former Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan was arrested Tuesday on charges of helping to organise an army rebellion, police said.

A senior police official who asked not to be identified said Mr. Kriangsak denied the charges and was trying to arrange bail. The uprising last week was crushed by loyalist troops.

The official said Mr. Kriangsak, prime minister from 1977 to 1980, surrendered to a team of special investigators at Supreme Military Command Headquarters in Bangkok.

Police said an initial batch of 31 warrants was drawn up Monday for the arrest of Mr. Kriangsak, four other retired generals, members of parliament, labour leaders, businessmen, and soldiers.

The warrants also identified two junior army officers believed by investigators to have ordered the gunfire from rebel tanks that killed NBC television bureau chief Neil Davis, NBC soundman Bill Tatch and three Thais during the uprising last week.

Mr. Kriangsak and the four generals, including Sern Nakhon who was titular leader of the coup, have said they were forced

to join the plot at gunpoint by cashiered army Col. Manoon Roopphachom.

Mr. Kriangsak was seen entering investigation headquarters Tuesday morning but did not comment to reporters.

A warrant also has been issued for Col. Manoon's arrest. Police said his current whereabouts were unknown although Singapore has said he left there for Frankfurt last Saturday.

His brother Manas, another suspected principal coup organizer, also is at large, police said.

A senior police officer told Reuters more arrests were expected to follow. "We're interrogating the small fry and anticipate further arrests as more information comes out," he said.

He said Gen. Prem Tinsulanonda's government had been stung by the coup attempt's negative impact on Thailand's image both at home and abroad as result of wide media coverage of bloodshed on Bangkok streets.

Gen. Prem was determined to "take strict legal measures to bring those responsible (for trying to overthrow his government) to justice," the official said.

Jayewardene offers Tamils truce or fight

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene marked his 79th birthday Tuesday after offering Tamil separatist guerrillas a fight or a truce.

Mr. Jayewardene, facing the worst crisis in his 45-year political career, was not celebrating his birthday as a sign of respect to those killed in the battle against the guerrillas, a government spokesman said.

In the past two years more than 2,000 people have been killed and Sri Lanka's economy has been dented by the conflict between the majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

But Mr. Jayewardene, a former boxer, appears in good health for a man of 79. The only time he has fallen ill in recent years was in July when he was off work for five days with influenza. He said later the only medicine he took was a local potion of coriander with ginger.

He said on Sunday: "Peace talks or no peace talks, if the terrorists fight we have to fight them and win the war."

The government said Monday it was unilaterally extending a shaky three-month old ceasefire with guerrillas which was due to end Wednesday.

It said "appropriate measures" would be taken against the rebels if they violated the truce.

Hours before the ceasefire extension was announced, troops stormed a guerrilla stronghold in eastern Trincomalee district and killed 20 guerrillas, the Defence Ministry said.

It said 83 guerrillas surrendered during the assault at Nilaweli, a tourist beach resort which had been under guerrilla control for the past few weeks.

The government also said Monday troops had destroyed two guerrilla camps at Sampur and Toppur in Trincomalee, killing 12 guerrillas. The district has been under a night curfew for the past six days.

Mr. Jayewardene left Colombo with his wife Elina to spend his birthday quietly at his country residence at Mirissa in southern Sri Lanka, the spokesman said.

He planted a tree at a nearby housing scheme at the auspicious time of 7.42 a.m. as advised by astrologers.

Thousands of people across the island also planted trees as part of a campaign to grow 100 million trees by 1988, the spokesman said.



Prince Charles appoints new secretary, aide

LONDON (R) — An international banker and an officer in the women's army corps were appointed to two key posts within Prince Charles' household, Buckingham Palace said. Sir John Riddell, a chartered accountant who has served with several international banks and the World Bank in Washington, was chosen as the couple's private secretary. He succeeds Edward Adeane, who resigned last March in a blaze of publicity amid newspaper reports of an irreconcilable rift with Charles' wife, Princess Diana, who was said to have found him "hussy and Victorian." Alison Ewan, a 29-year-old captain in the women's Royal Army Corps currently serving in Hong Kong, was appointed as Charles' assistant equerry. Ewan, who will be one of Charles' closest aides, was appointed after "the Prince decided that he should have a lady equerry." Buckingham Palace said.

Frenchman gets British heart

NICE, France (R) — A Frenchman was given the heart of a British road crash victim this week in the first French transplant operation using a heart from outside France, the surgeon in charge has said. The recipient, a man in his 40s who was not named, died a few hours later. He had been given the heart of a 23-year-old man killed in a road crash outside Birmingham, England. Professor Vincent Dor, who headed the operating team, said the heart was obtained through a private specialist organisation called Euro Transplant. Dr. Dor said the operation failed because the heart could not adjust to the recipient's body which was worn out after being kept alive artificially for three weeks.

Tehran's wealthy buy pick-up trucks for downtown shopping

TEHRAN (R) — The lady with the expensive silk headscarf behind the wheel of a pick-up truck has not fallen on hard times — it's the only way she can drive to the shops in Tehran's city centre. The head of the Iranian capital's traffic department, Alireza Azar-Pezhoo, told the Islamic Republic newspaper that 2,000 well-to-do women now own pick-up trucks for this purpose.

Man puts delicate operation to the test

SYDNEY (R) — A Sydney man whose penis was sliced off but re-attached by microsurgery has said he had tested the success of the operation by visiting the city's Kings Cross red light district. It worked, the unidentified man announced on television. The man underwent seven hours of surgery nearly two months ago at Sydney's Prince of Wales Hospital. It was only the fourth operation of its kind in Australia and so far the only successful one, a member of the surgical team said on the same Current Affairs Programme. The surgeon, who also remained anonymous, said it was not difficult to achieve partial success in such an operation but the problem was full restoration of damaged nerves and blood vessels. The patient who said he had believed God had made the operation a success, said: "The doctor wanted me to make it work hard. So I went to Kings Cross yesterday afternoon and tried it and it works." A woman accused of cutting off her common law husband's penis has been sent for trial at a Sydney court on charges of assault and inflicting grievous bodily harm.

Drivers who solicit women face big fines

LONDON (R) — Drivers who solicit women for the purpose of prostitution face fines of up to £400 (£530) under a controversial new law which took effect Monday. The Sexual Offences Act 1985, implemented despite a storm of controversy earlier this year, also makes it an offence for a man to solicit women persistently for prostitution. Critics of the new law, introduced by parliamentarian Janet Fookes of the ruling Conservative Party, say it infringes on personal liberties and may lead to abuse and victimization. The act also raises the maximum penalty for attempted rape from seven years to life imprisonment and that for indecent assault from two years to ten.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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AN EXTRA CHANCE

Both vulnerable, South deals.
NORTH
♠ 752
♥ 82
♦ Q10963
♣ 753
WEST
♠ J643
♥ J1097
♦ A82
♣ Q9
EAST
♠ Q109
♥ 8543
♦ 75
♣ K1086

The bidding:
South West North East
3 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♣.
It is not always easy to spot the extra chances that are available to you. On this hand from a rubber bridge game, South made the most of his opportunities.
The bidding was old-fashioned textbook. The opening bid showed a balanced hand of 25-27 points, and North had no reason to look for another contract.
West led the top of his heart

sequence, won in the closed hand. Obviously, if the ace of diamonds was guarded no more than once, the contract was a cakewalk. However, if the defenders could hold up the ace for two rounds, declarer had only eight tricks. And the only place to develop the ninth was in clubs.
At trick two declarer exited with a low club. West won and continued with a heart. Now declarer tried the ace of clubs, felling the queen. Suddenly, South could assure the contract provided clubs were 2-3 or East held the king.

Declarer continued with the king of diamonds, and West had to hold off. West came the jack and, when West ducked again, declarer overtook with dummy's queen to gain an entry to the table. Now he led dummy's remaining club and, as long as East followed, the ninth trick was sure.

If East produced a low club, declarer would insert the jack and, if that lost to the king, the 13th club would be high. And if East came up with the king of clubs, the jack would be the fulfilling trick. Easy, isn't it.